

# gaku asia

April 2014  
P 95

WITCH  
CRAFT  
WORKS

2COVER FEATURES

PERKEE®  
PERSONALIZED ITEMS

Con-in-Focus

Tagcom  
Cavite City Cosfest  
Ozine Fest 2014

NO GAME NO LIFE

GAMER'S ARENA

The Witch & the Hundred Knight  
Sound of Silence  
DMMD

MANGA

Mairunovich  
Sekirei  
Hime Doll

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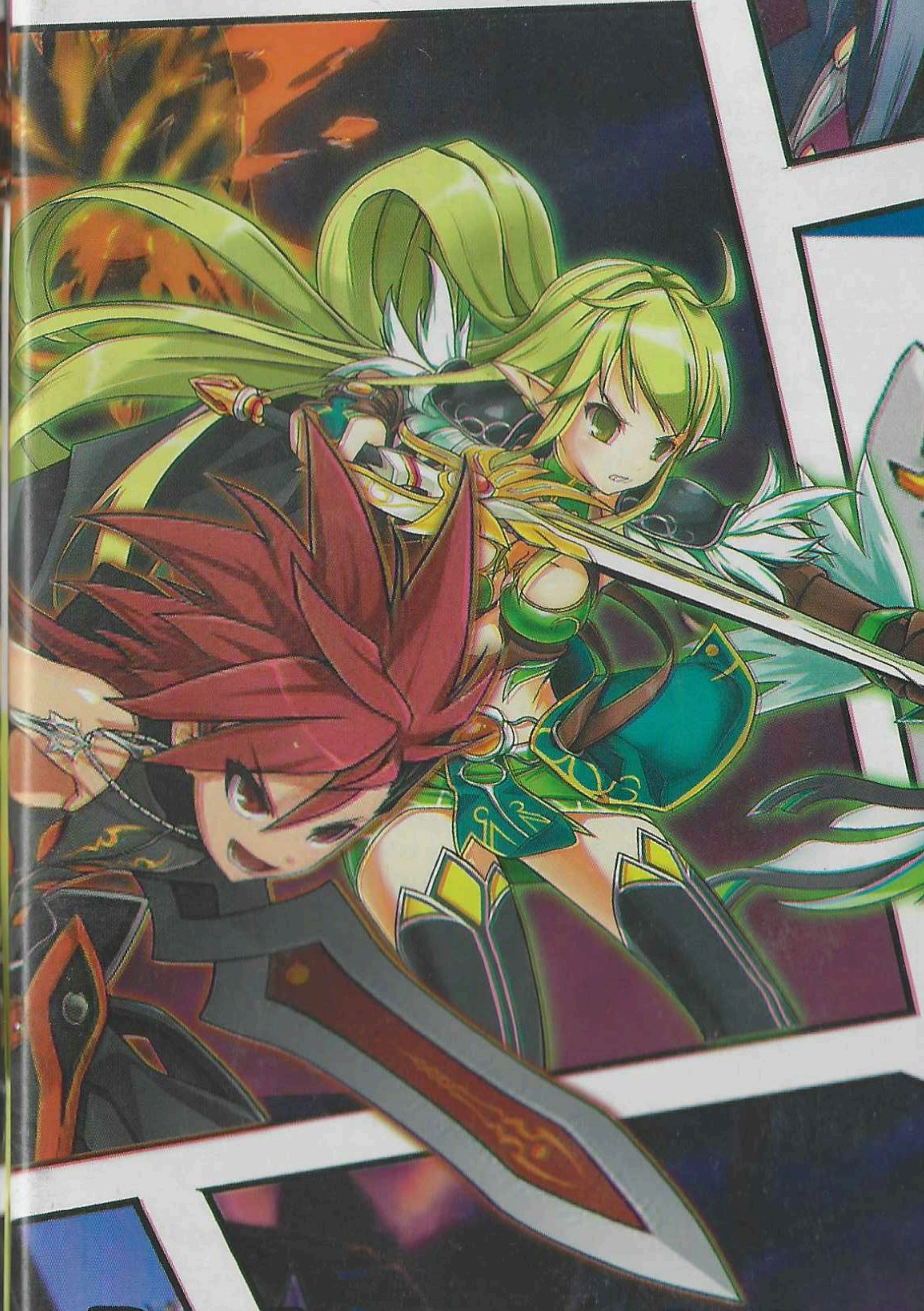
REVIEWS

MAHOUKA KOUKOU NO RETTOUSEI  
D-FRAG!  
SEKAI SEFUKU and more!!

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HK...18.03 HKD IN...22,612.30 IDR JP...230.84 JPY MY...6.92 MYR SG...2.86 SGD TW...68.61 TWD TH...68.81 THB





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You love staying at home watching TV, being on FB and playing games? In this issue, we learn about a brother-sister team that stays at home playing games. And they are the best.

Speaking of the best, the OA team congratulates all of you for your hard work! We are very proud of the graduates and this issue is our present to you. In here, we have a lot of new anime, interesting mangas and hot games (like steamy hot~)

We also have a tutorial on the female anatomy. Then Perkee teaches us how the Sochii-kun doll was made and how the business is run. Photographer LMKusanagi will be talking about cosplay photography while The Sword Master, Miko Garcia tells all in an epic interview (of sorts)

Just like Ayaka from Witch Craft works, this issue is burning with passion. What are you waiting for? Flip the page to celebrate and enjoy summer with us!

Kanddy

## Contributor's Question

**When you heard the word "summer",  
item comes into your mind  
and why?**

The first word that came into my mind was "bikini". I want to wear one but sadly I don't have a hot body. :P  
-Dhanliza Cellona

To me, summer means one thing - the beach. Crystal seas, white sands, blue skies, towering palms, hot sun, cool breeze and lovely ladies - the true meaning of summer  
-James Bayot

Watermelons! We usually get watermelons around summer, and most of anime series with beach episodes have the "Smash the watermelon" game.  
-Nathaniel Angeles

Ice cream, ice candy! and time for a swim because we need to relax and cool our bodies off!  
-Ann Flores

Fat. Getting fat.  
-Kent Diamante

OLAF QWQ \*kidding\*  
-Rhaine Agacan

Cold drinks and aircon: survival items during summer!  
-Dianne Gavino

Ice Cream and Umi >w<  
-Pam Ola

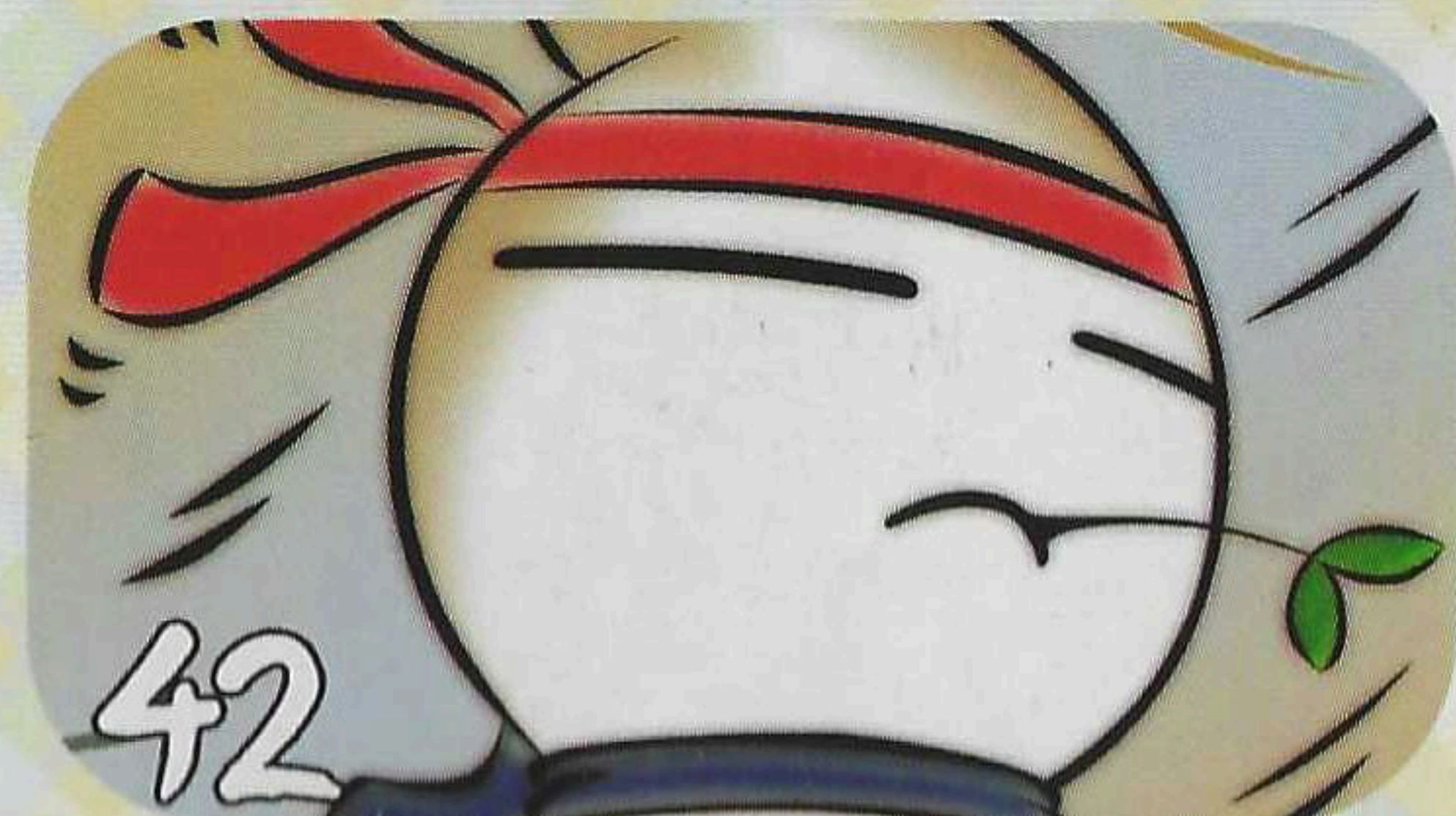
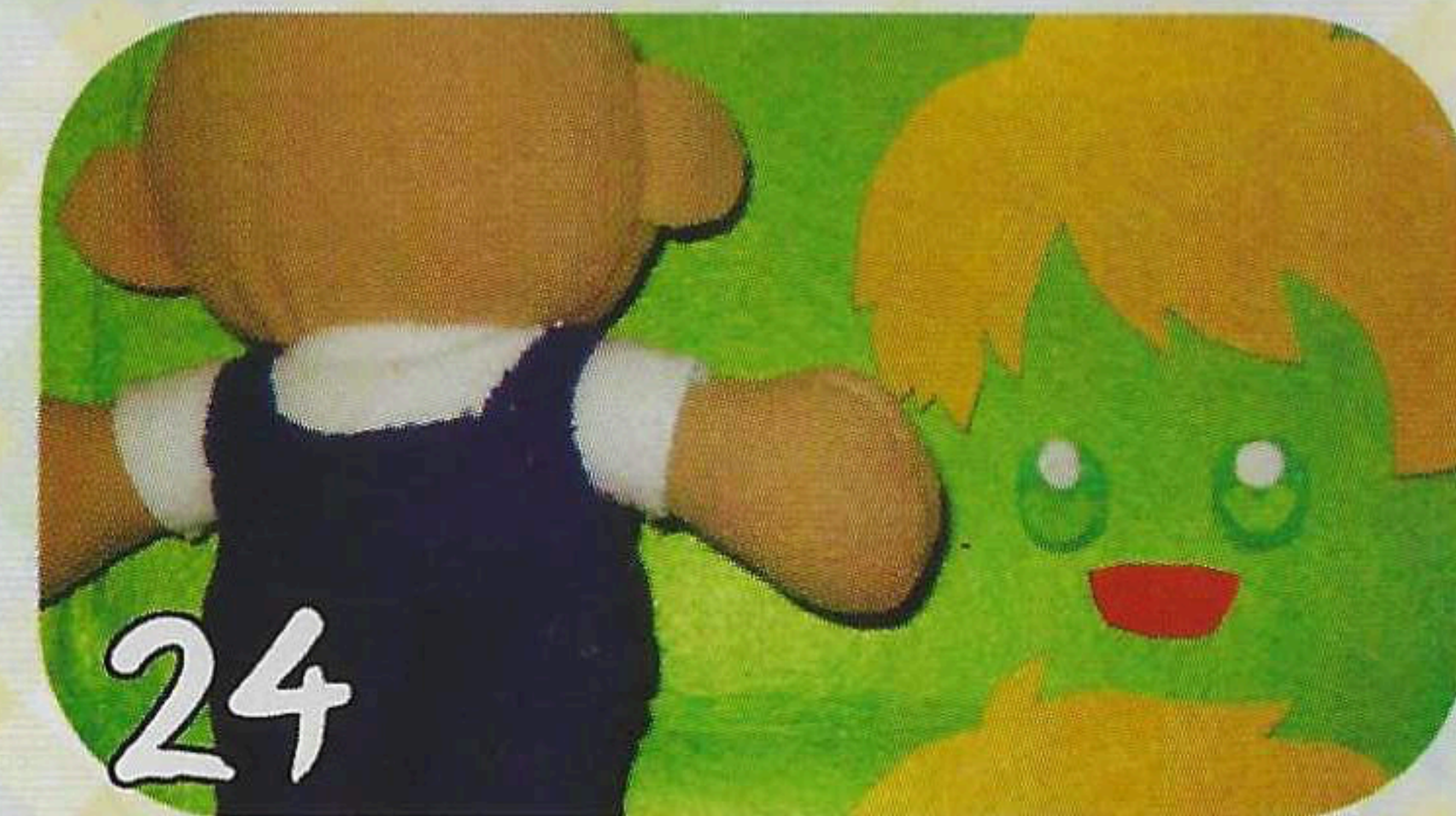
Endless heat =A= and lot's of time to do things!  
-Ren Santos

The beach. It's the most common setting for summer outings, in anime and real life  
-John Lim

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# INBOX



My Otaku Asia Anime Magazine collection  
May, June, July, August, Sept, Oct.- Nov,  
& Dec! 2013  
more mags to come

-Aj Drageel Hitsugaya / Kaiji Senpai

hi otaku asia anime  
magazine pwede 07 ghost  
at gundam oo sa poster  
asap thanks

-ガルシア ジョンビクター

Hello Otaku Asia! Can I make a  
request? Please feature the new  
season of La Corda d'Oro in your  
magazine! The title of the new  
season is La Corda d'Oro Blue?Sky,  
and I have heard the start of its airing  
will be on April 5. I'm really curious  
and excited for the new cast. I hope  
you can feature it in the future.  
Arigatou gozaimasu! >\_<

-Jen Ü ScarLet



Patrick L. Galvan



Thank you for always  
make us excited and  
happy by reading  
Otaku Asia..

I would love to greet  
my whole family - Papa  
Tom, Mami Jhing, Kuya  
Jaypee, Patricia,  
Peaches, Lola Linda,  
Daddy Art, Mami Rose,  
Papa Nel, Mami An,  
Mami Jo, Papa Rudy,  
Ate Lara, Jelly, LA at  
Jana - Mahal na Mahal  
na Mahal ko po kayo..  
Sobra sobra

Super gaganda /  
gagaling / kakabilib po  
yung mga issues nyo..  
I've been collecting  
Otaku Asia magazine  
from the start and  
never forget buying  
every month, its worth  
spending for..

I'm always rooting in  
you Guy's .. More  
Power and God Bless..  
<



hello OTAKU ASIA..I'm Kirby de  
paz from "the city of golden  
friendship" Cagayan De Oro. But  
now I'm currently serving my  
mission here in Quezon City. Since  
high school, nag ko-collect na ako  
ng mga mags nyo. I just want to  
send this picture, baka sakaling in  
the future ma post ninyo sa future  
issue ninyo.  
Long live Otaku Asia... Long Live  
Psicom

Kirbydepaz123

hi, i really like the  
september issue. pls  
continue creating more  
magazine, God bless

-Aran Lot Aguilar

..it is better too late  
than never, so sad  
ngayon lang ako  
nakabili ng Dec issue  
(wah what about  
both January and  
February issues~!),  
marami pong salamat  
and na-feature  
artwork ko, pati pala  
yung message along  
the pic nasama tsk,  
pina-astig ko pa sana,  
gusto ko tuloy umulit  
but give chance to  
other otakus, hmm  
anyway, again thanks  
po sa OA staffs and  
God bless - MORE  
ISSUES TO BE  
PUBLISHED PO  
PLEASE~!..

<m(\_\_)m> \*dogeza\*

-Nats Dich



Hi, just want to share my gundam collection

-Bryan Cabingan





Hi there!  
I'm really looking forward if you could include either of these fan arts of mine on Rivaille~Heichou of Shingeki no Kyojin and Itsuka Shido of Date A Live. I have been an otaku for quite some time now and that is an accomplishment. I certainly wanted to share my all-so-new fan arts of my two MOST favorite anime characters- I also grew fun about.

I'm really looking forward to it!  
OTAKU ASIA ANIME MAGAZINE Rocks!

-Kristine Louise Castrojas

Konnichiwa minna\_san"

YEHEY!" It vacation time na" so it time for my cosplay adventure and buy your magazine in cosplay events, pa'enjoy ng pa'enjoy na ang magazine niyo" Wohhoo!"... \*\_\* Hahaha" XD sana more issue pa ang inyong magazine and level up niyo pa uh" para tumaas ang rating niyo...

God bless to your magazine and more power.

Ps may i request to your next issue on your cover feature in your magazine is Mekaku City Actors... pls po....

-Maka Duran



Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout? Fanart to showoff?  
We would love to hear from you!

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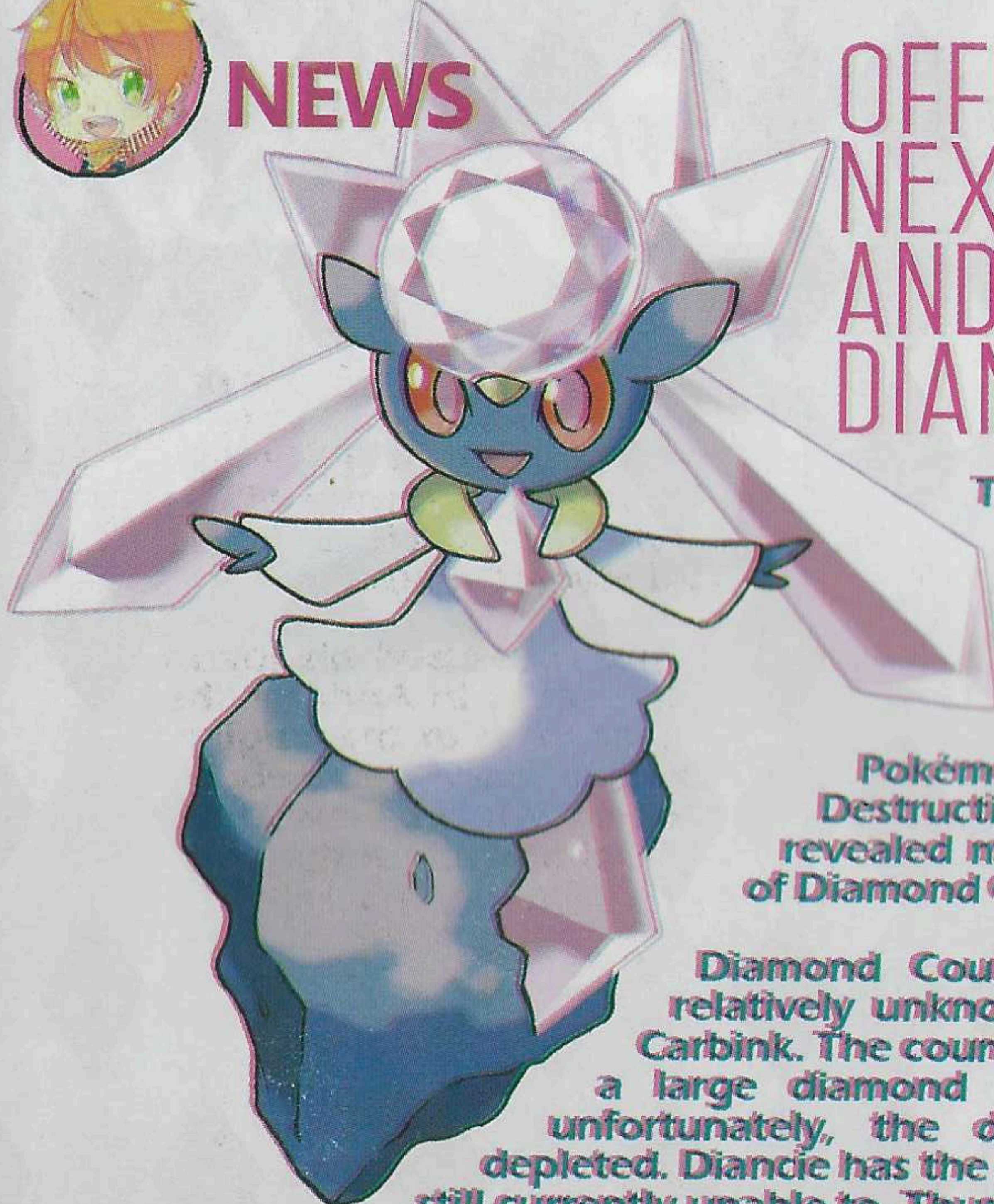
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## NEWS

# OFFICIAL TITLE OF NEXT POKÉMON FILM AND NEW POKÉMON DIANCIE ANNOUNCED



The seventeenth feature length film for the anime series of Pokémon will be released on July 19, 2014 nationwide in Japan.

Last February 15th, the official title has been announced, which is Pokémon the Movie XY: Cocoon of Destruction and Diancie. Diancie, a newly revealed mythical Pokémon, is also the princess of Diamond Ore Country, the setting for the film.

Diamond Country is located deep underground, relatively unknown by humans, and is inhabited by Carbink. The country runs on an energy source which is a large diamond called the "Sacred Diamond", and unfortunately, the diamond's power has been nearly depleted. Diancie has the ability to create such diamonds, but is still currently unable to. Thus, she joins Ash and friends on a quest to find the Life Pokémon Xerneas. However, their journey is marked with danger, and the greatest one is the Destruction Pokémon Yveltal.

The franchise, known for its promotional activities that include theater gifts, advanced purchase gifts, and pre-release events, will have a lot in store for the fans.

For more info, you may visit the official website (<http://www.pokemon-movie.jp/>).

## ESO CONSOLE VERSIONS TO BE RELEASED ON JUNE

While PC and Mac gamers can already embark on epic adventures on Tamriel this month, console gamers will have to wait until June 2014 to get their fair share of questing.

Bethesda's first venture into MMORPG territory, The Elder Scrolls combines the open world approach of The Elder Scrolls series with multiplayer adventuring, something that has long been sought after by the fans.

The game is set a millennium before the events of the previous installment, The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim. A time of great crisis, the three main factions – the Aldmeri Dominion, the Daggerfall Covenant, and the Ebonheart Pact – are locked in conflict, while the Daedric Prince Molag Bal seeks to cause chaos.

Source:  
[www.digitaltrends.com/gaming/elder-scrolls-online-set-launch-april-2014-macpc/](http://www.digitaltrends.com/gaming/elder-scrolls-online-set-launch-april-2014-macpc/)



# FAIRY TAIL RETURNS THIS APRIL



People of Earthland, REJOICE! After a wait that seemed like eons, it is due time that our favorite dragon slayer wizard and his true companions to ride the airwaves once again.

The sixth issue of 2014's Kodansha's Weekly Magazine has announced that the anime adaptation of Fairy Tail will return this April on Tokyo TV and its affiliated channels. The show will be continuing where it last left off, which is at the Grand Magic Games.

Director Shinji Ishihara has expressed his joy in having brought back for the series in April for the fans, and has announced that most of the original cast and production staff have made a comeback, except the character designer, which is now Shinji Takeuchi, who is also the character designer of Gintama. Aside from that, Bridge has replaced Statelight as one of the animation studios for the series.

The official website for the new anime, <http://www.fairytail-tv.com/>, has been released last January 7.

## NEW DRAGON BALL Z KAI ANIME SERIES TO PREMIERE ON APRIL 6

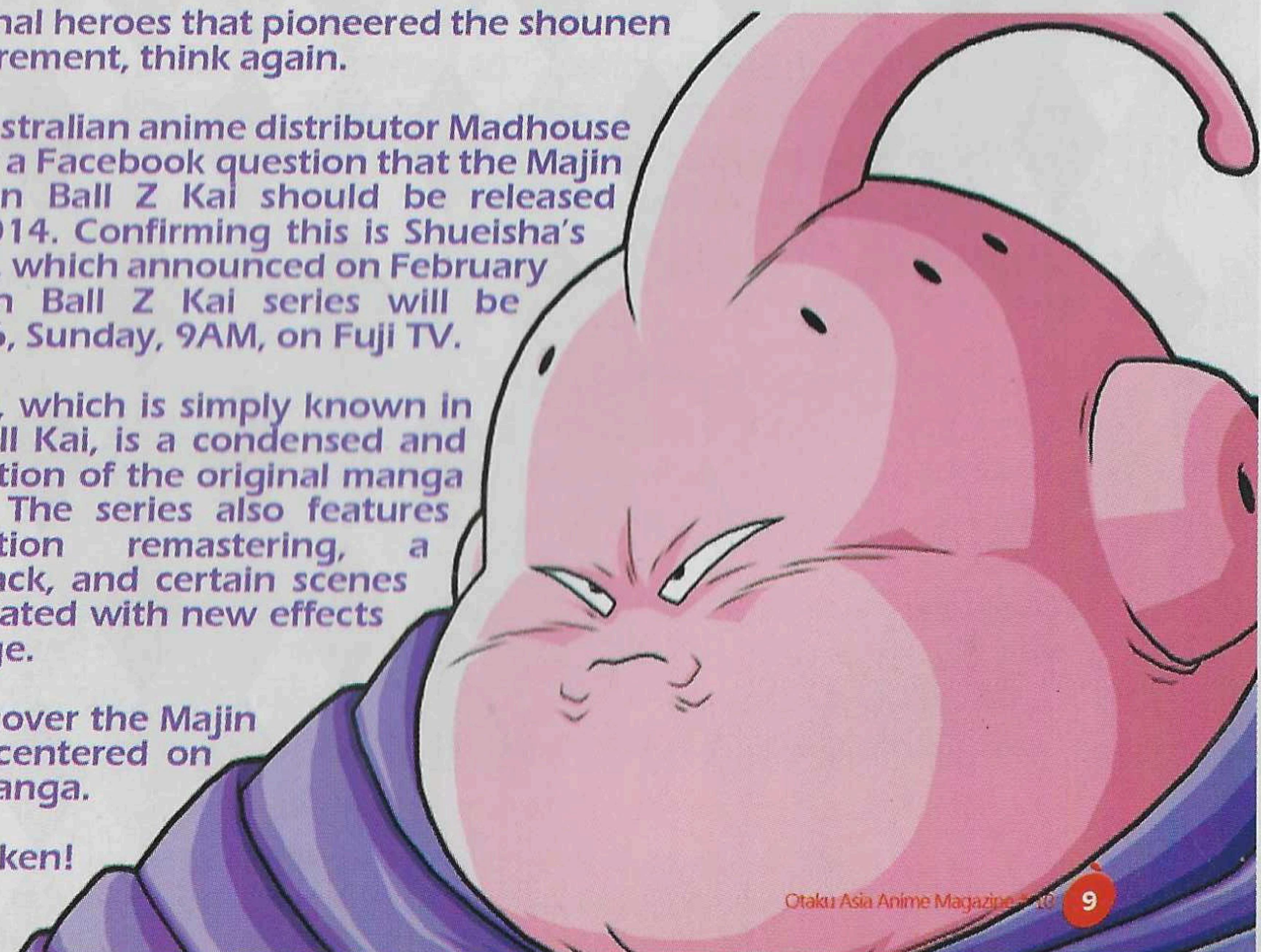
If you think the original heroes that pioneered the shounen genre are still on retirement, think again.

Last November, Australian anime distributor Madhouse stated in response to a Facebook question that the Majin Buu saga of Dragon Ball Z Kai should be released sometime around 2014. Confirming this is Shueisha's April issue of V Jump, which announced on February that a new Dragon Ball Z Kai series will be premiering on April 6, Sunday, 9AM, on Fuji TV.

Dragon Ball Z Kai, which is simply known in Japan as Dragon Ball Kai, is a condensed and more faithful adaptation of the original manga by Akira Toriyama. The series also features digital high-definition remastering, a re-recorded soundtrack, and certain scenes that were either updated with new effects or reanimated footage.

Said new series will cover the Majin Buu saga, which is centered on the final arc of the manga.

Dragon Ball fans awaken!





# JAPAN'S FAMOUS BEEF BOWL IN THE PHILIPPINES



Nihonbashi was a humble fish market Chuo-ku, Tokyo, on the outskirts of Edo Castle. Here, Eikichi Matsuda created the delicious recipe of beef and rice we now know as Gyudon (beef bowl). He started a restaurant and named it after his birthplace, Yoshino-Cho, Osaka that featured affordable and fast meals. This was then a new concept in the Japanese culture and the fishermen and market visitors embraced it. However, in 1923, Japan was hit by the Great Kanto Earthquake and the restaurant, Yoshinoya had to move to Tsukiji where it continued to serve the original beef bowl.

Eikichi Matsuda's son turned the business into a 24-hour restaurant and in 1958, it became a corporate company operating on a chain store system. Yoshinoya has grown to be one of the biggest fast food chains in Japan. To date, there are now more than 1200 outlets around the world.



December 2001, Yoshinoya Century Pacific, Inc., started its first store operation in the Philippines. Currently, there are seven (7) mall stores in Metro Manila and is still growing. Ihanat Foods Corporation's President/ General Manager, Mr. Timothy James G. Tang told Otaku Asia that they are actually planning to have a stand-alone store in Makati and Ortigas.

Yoshinoya in the Philippines has grown to delicious modern Japanese comfort food, from fresh salads, delectable seafood, noodles and great selection of Japanese rice bowls. The Gyudon is available for Php 119. Since 2001, the company with the vision to be the most preferred Japanese restaurant in the country has offered high quality food at affordable prices.

Over the years, Yoshinoya's menu changed to reflect the Philippine consumer. Even the favorite Japanese staple, the classic ramen is now available and is getting attention. With its brighter and orange new interiors, the restaurant is even more welcoming and interesting.

Why don't you head on out to Yoshinoya today and grab some tempura, maybe some kani salad? How about some ramen? Better yet, a super bowl of Gyudon. Like the official Yoshinoya Facebook fan page [www.facebook.com/YoshinoyaPhilippines](http://www.facebook.com/YoshinoyaPhilippines), or call 288-2888 for delivery.



**Registration Fee P800:**

Inclusive of uniform, meals, art crafts materials & Graduation fee. For ages 4-10.  
Classes start on: April 14-18, 2014 and April 28 to May 2, 2014, Graduation on May 3, 2014







# DRAWING THE BODY BY kandy

Female bodies are soft & curvy  
so use light and smooth strokes  
as much as possible

## PT1 BOOBIES! remember: 45° degrees!

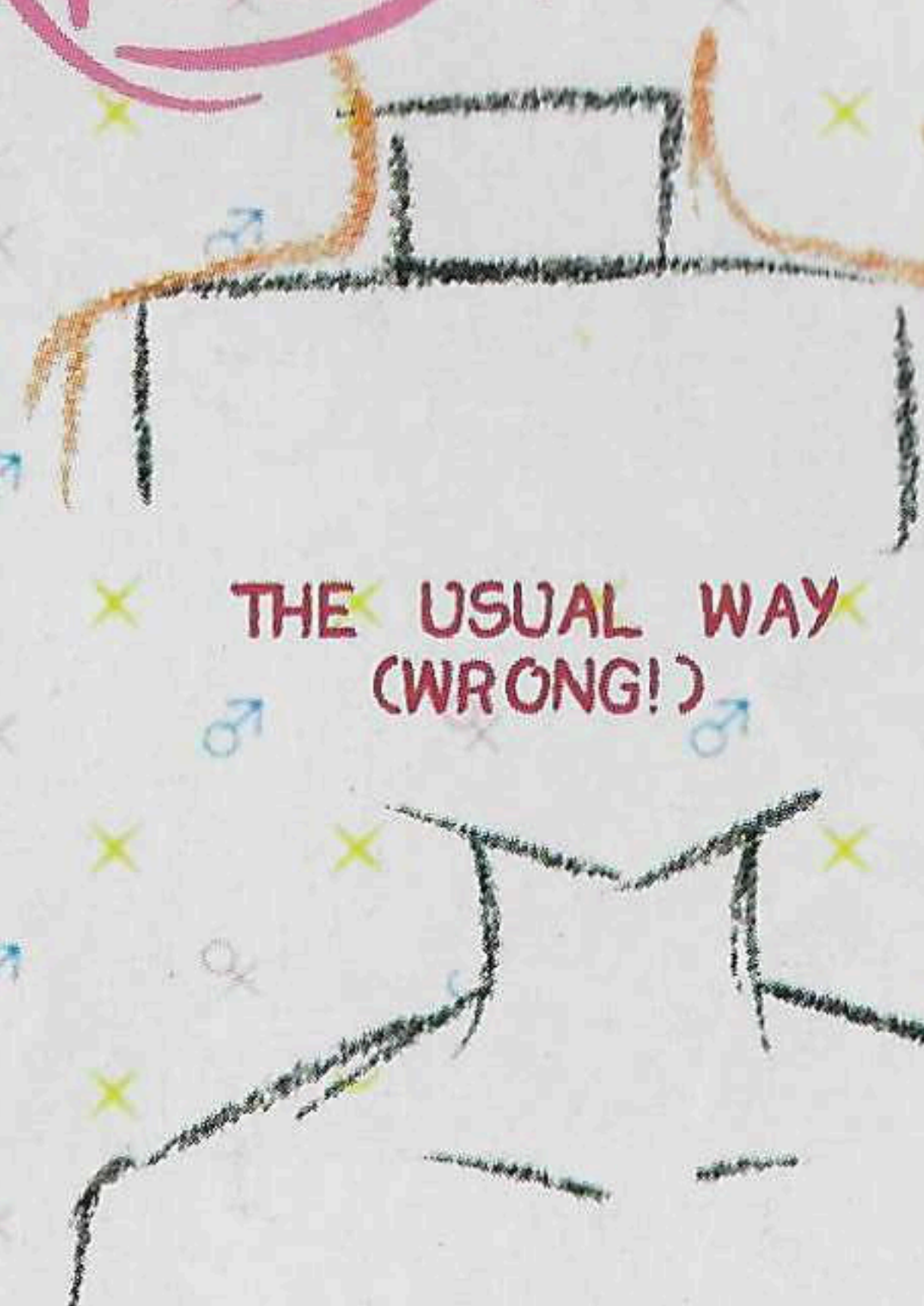


1. PINPOINT THE CHEST AREA
2. DRAW A VERTICAL LINE
3. ROUGHLY FIND THE 45° FROM THE VERTICAL LINE

THE TOP 45° SHOULD ALIGN TO THE SHOULDER  
THE BOTTOM 45° ALIGNS TO THE NIPPLES

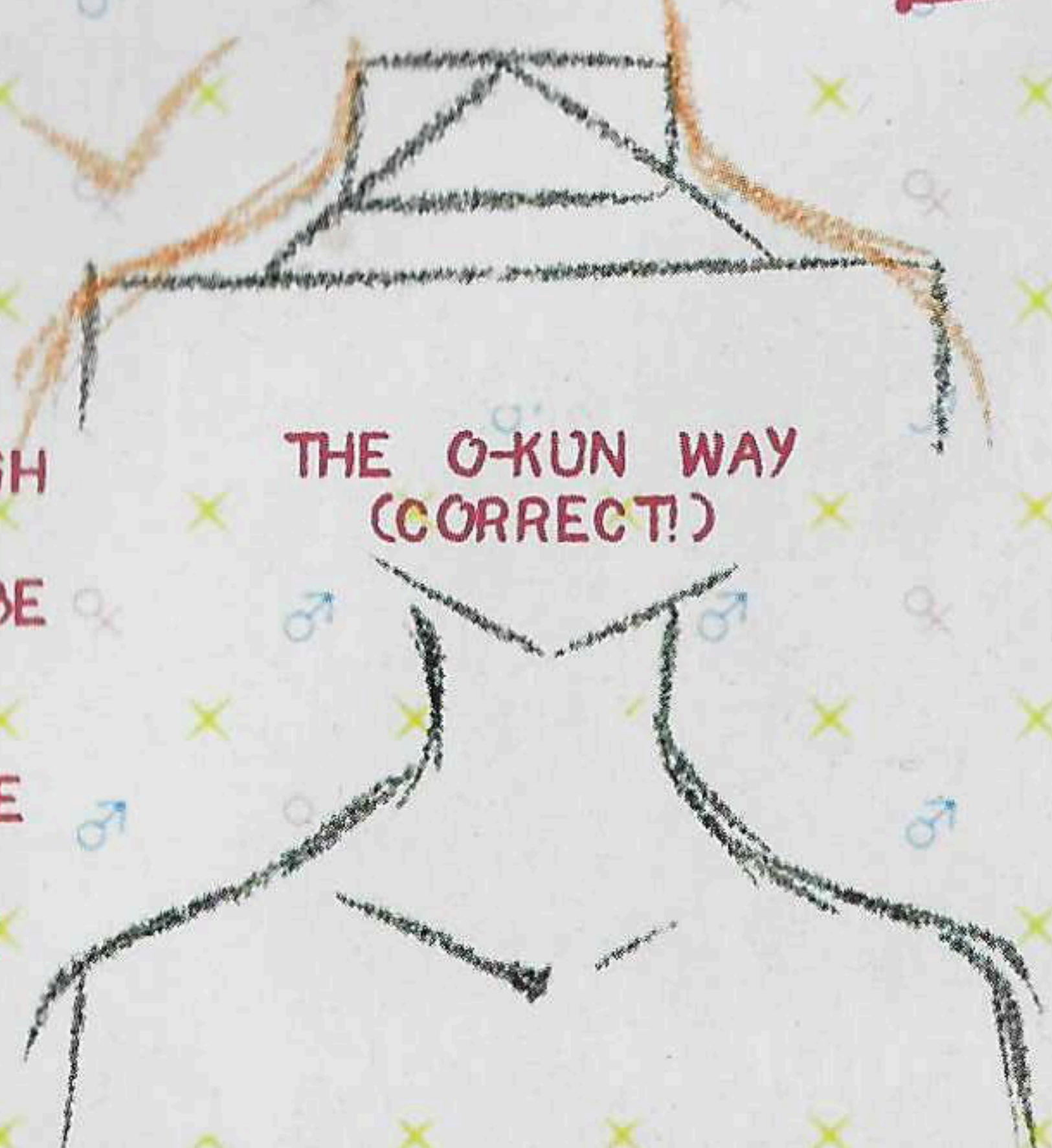


## PT2 NECK & SHOULDERS



THE NECK IS CONNECTED THROUGH A COLLAR BONE WHICH TENDS TO BE FORGOTTEN

IMAGINE RECTANGLE (NECK) AND A TRIANGLE (COLLAR BONE)



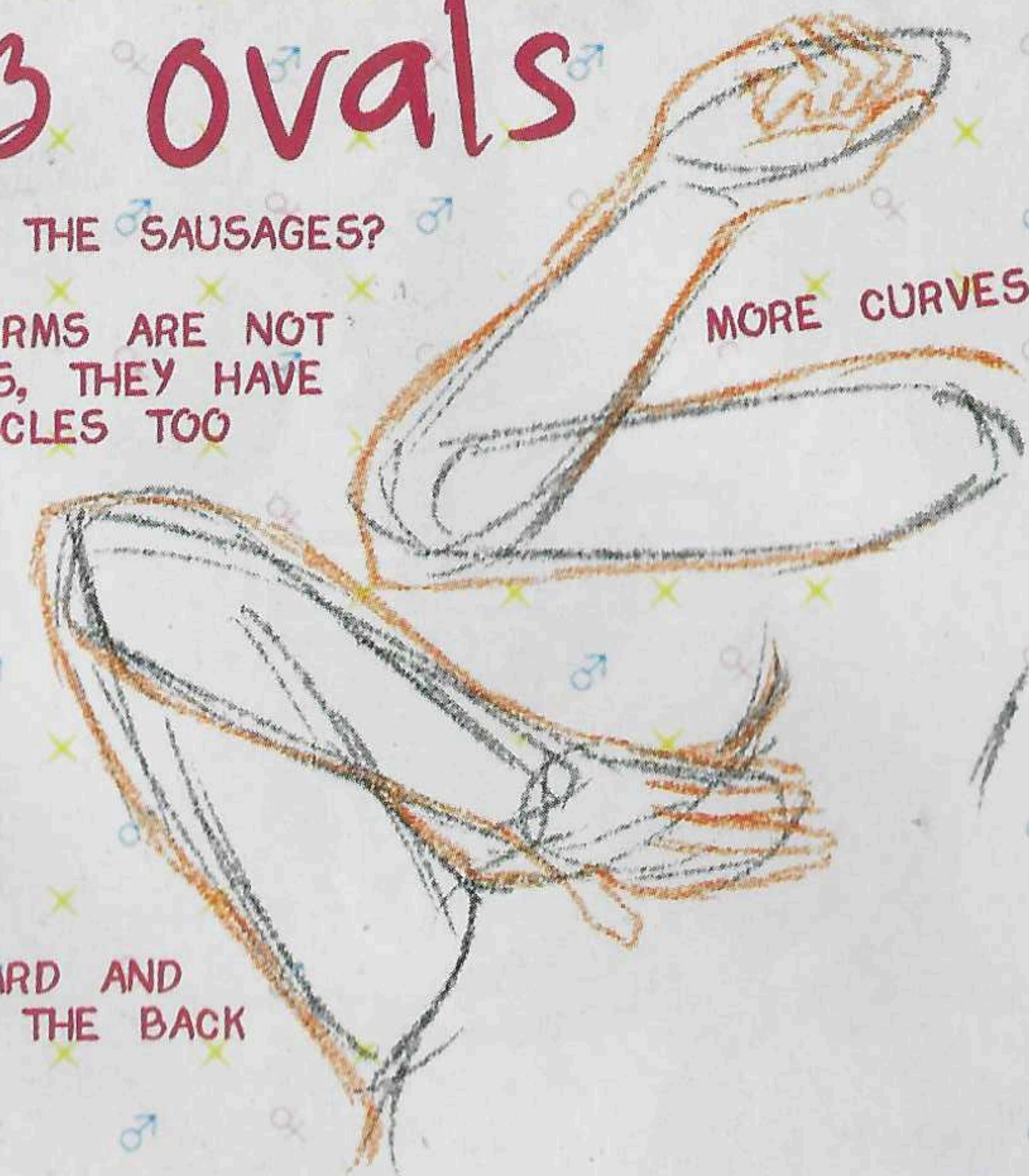
## PT3 ARMS: 3 ovals

REMEMBER THE SAUSAGES?

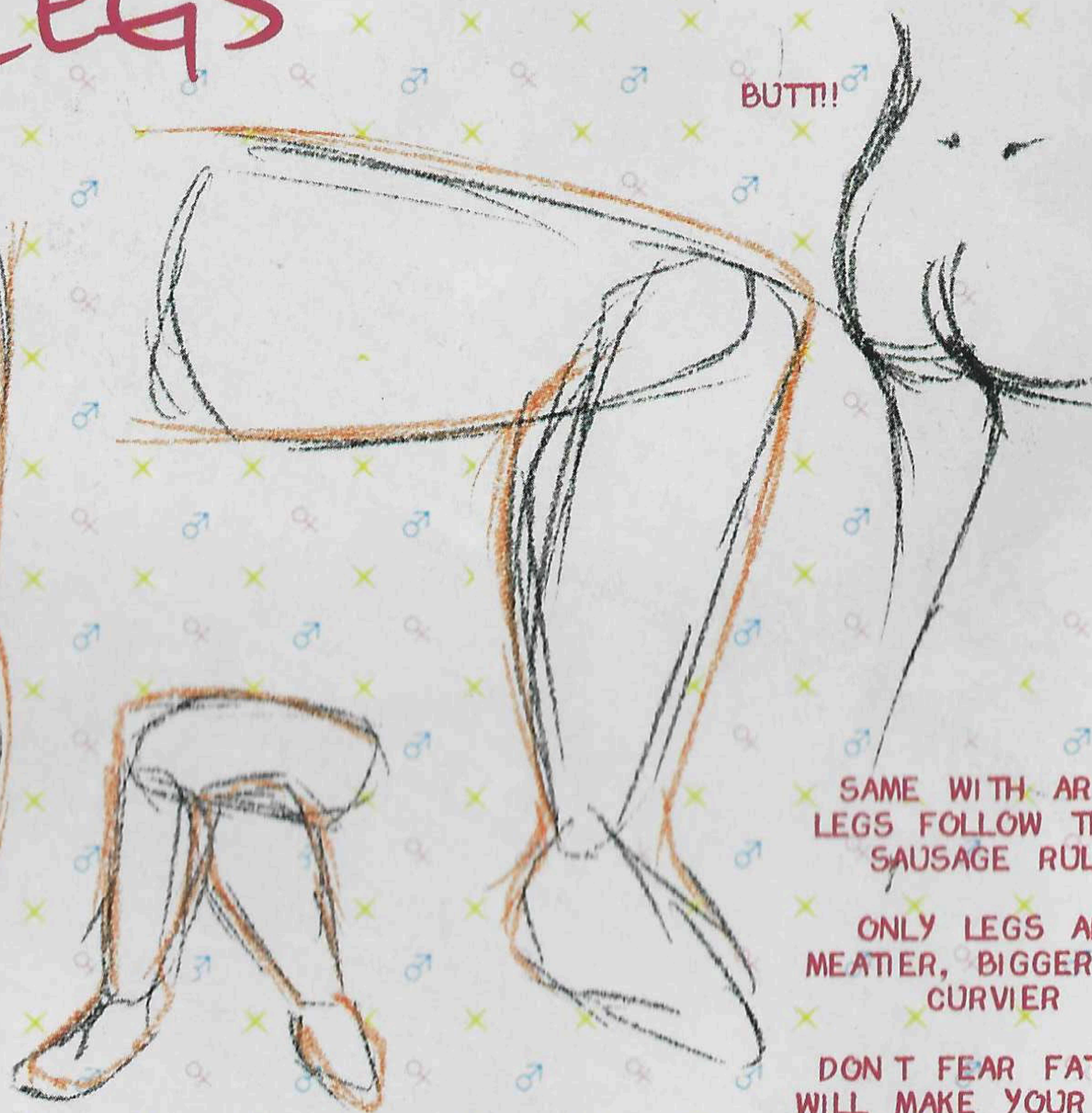
WELL, ARMS ARE NOT OBLONGS, THEY HAVE MUSCLES TOO



ARMS UPWARD AND VIEWED FROM THE BACK



## PT4 LEGS



SAME WITH ARMS, LEGS FOLLOW THE 3 SAUSAGE RULE

ONLY LEGS ARE MEATIER, BIGGER AND CURVIER

DON'T FEAR FAT. IT WILL MAKE YOUR LEGS MORE REALISTIC

NO TO STICK LEGS!!





# REQUEST

Requested by: Roldan Oliveros | Written by: Yami



## Welcome to the club!

Kenji Kazama, a student of Kujou High, believes that he is one of the delinquents in school. He's the leader of the Kazama gang with Yokoshima and Hiroshi Nagayama. Even by being notorious in school, people often forget his name. As the gang was strolling around the school, they saw a smoke in a classroom. They rushed to kill the fire. They find out that the fire was caused by fireworks. It was set off by the Game Development Club.

## D-FRAGMENTS

Suddenly, the members of the club started to attack them, attempting to erase their memories of what happened in the classroom using their elemental abilities. However it was ineffective to Kenji and the members forced him to join the club... violently.

The Game Development Club consists of five members, Roka Shibasaki: the fire and darkness element, Sakura Mizukami: the water element, Chitose Osawa: the mentor of the club and the lightning element.

D-Fragments is an ongoing comedy manga and anime series written by Tomoya Haruno and directed by Seiki Sugawara.

Let's find out as we follow his adventures as the new member of the Game Development Club and as secrets and revelations about the club will be revealed.

# ToysRus

## NERF

### N-STRIKE ELITE



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DISTANCE



RETALIATOR



RAMPAGE



STOCKADE



STRYFE



ROUGH CUT EX-1



STRONGARM

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## ToysRus

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Alabang Town Center • Marquee Mall • The District Imus • Centrio Mall  
Power Plant Mall • Shangri-La Plaza • Eastwood Mall

### toybox



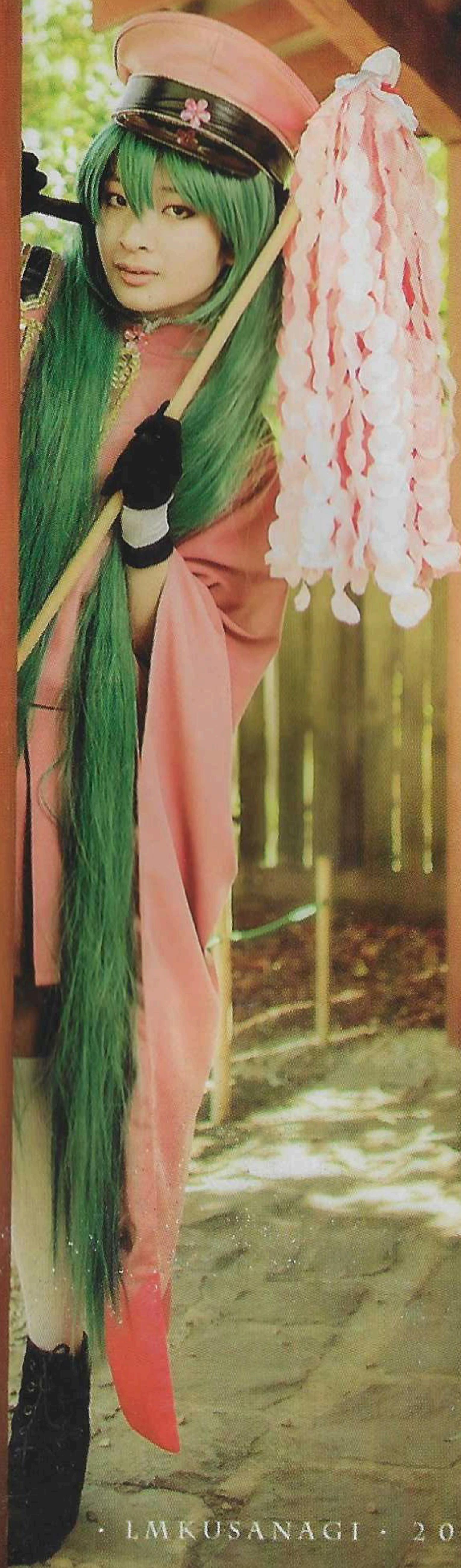
# LMKUSANAGI

Name: Aru Jei  
 Year started: 2009  
[lmkusanagi.deviantart.com](http://lmkusanagi.deviantart.com)  
[flickr.com/people/lmkusanagi](http://flickr.com/people/lmkusanagi)

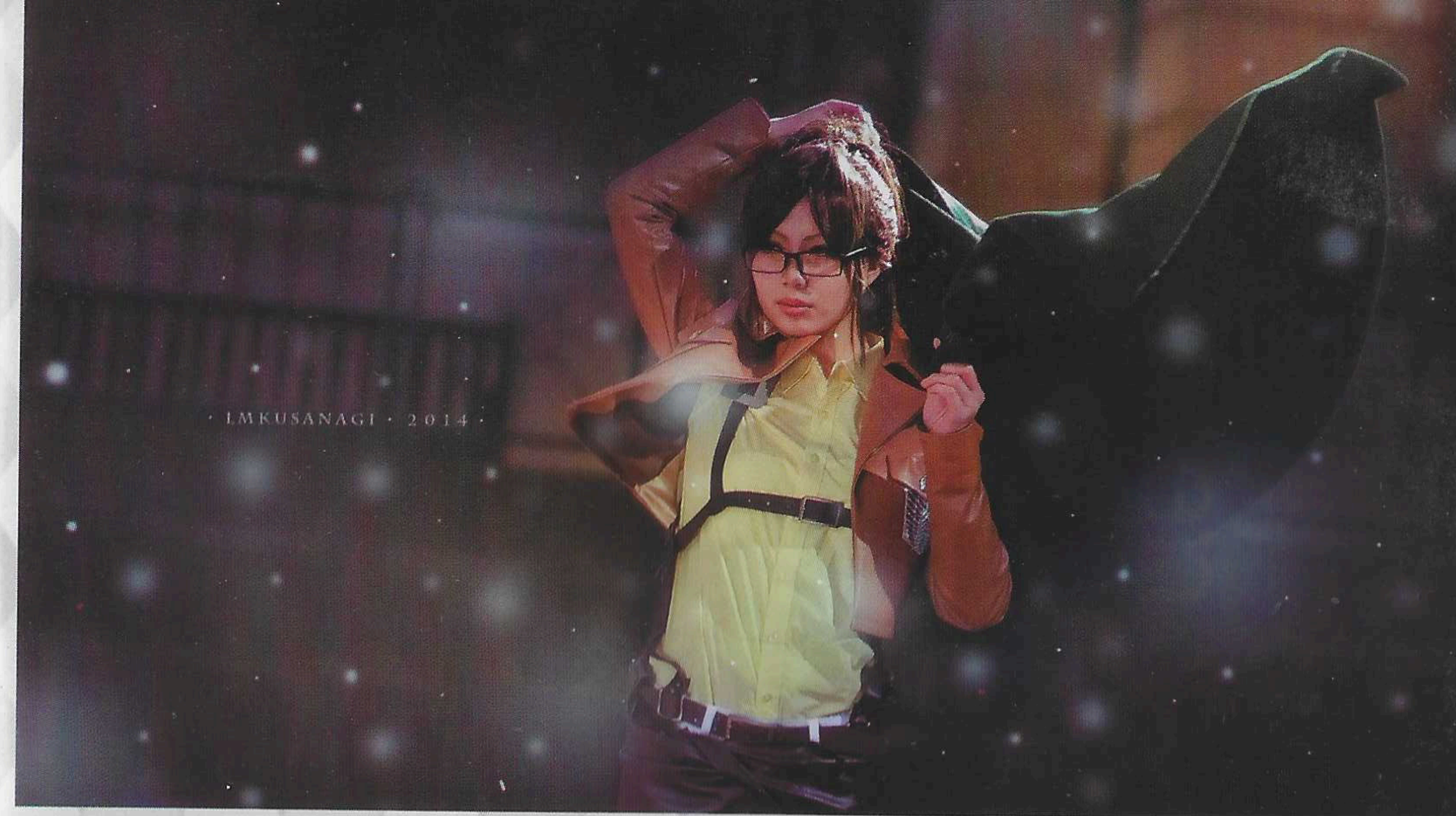
I happen to enter the cosplay community in 2008 and met friends who were into cosplay photography.

I pretty much liked how they took photos of cosplayers, so I decided to try it for myself. Another reason was that cosplaying wasn't really for me.

My earliest photography education came from my friends who were into this genre. They thought me the basic camera settings (ISO, aperture and shutter speed) and basic composition. At first it was pretty tedious. Especially if you haven't read your camera manual (like I did! lol). From then on, I was pretty much on my own. I started to look up in the internet for tips on how to take good portraiture (there are heaps of them in Google!). I also started collecting some photography magazines which contain tips on how to direct your subject/model; best time to shoot outdoors; lenses that work best with portraiture work; and post-process software that can help enhance photos as well as tips and tricks on using them. I did attend some photography workshops and events, and also joined various photography groups. I still do most of the things I written above whenever I have free time! There's always a few new bits and pieces of new information out there! XD



LMKUSANAGI · 2014 ·



LMKUSANAGI · 2014 ·



LMKUSANAGI · 2014 ·



**Tips in photography and cosplay photography, here are some that I think are useful (assuming you already know your basic camera settings and composition rules).**

**1. Do your homework.** It is important to research what cosplay are you shooting. It gives you a better idea how you light your subject and also the appropriate location for the shoot (if you are shooting on location).

**2. Build rapport with your model/ subject.** Your shoot can be more productive if you and the model are comfortable with each other. Small talks are helpful, but know your boundaries. If you aren't "close" with the model, avoid personal topics. You don't want to regret it later. XD

**3. Get it right in camera!** As much as possible, get your composition and exposure right in camera. It's a good way to hone your skills in manipulating the light. It also saves you time in post-processing your photos... XP

**4. Keep on shooting!** Practice makes you better if not perfect! If you learn something from a workshop or from the web, try to apply it in a shoot. You may get it right or wrong the first time, but it will still be a learning opportunity to you all the same. I think experience is very invaluable when it comes to photography.





## BENTO BOX

# Cool down on sun up

by Ann Flores

The best way to get through the summer heat is none other than having a bite of refreshing food and drinks. Why not try these Japanese favorites for a start?

## HIYASHI CHUKA

This is another cold noodle dish made with ramen noodles. With vegetables, omelette strips, and chicken or ham, this dish becomes a colorful attraction to your taste buds. It is also topped with vinegar or sesame soy sauce.



## UNAGI NO KABAYAKI

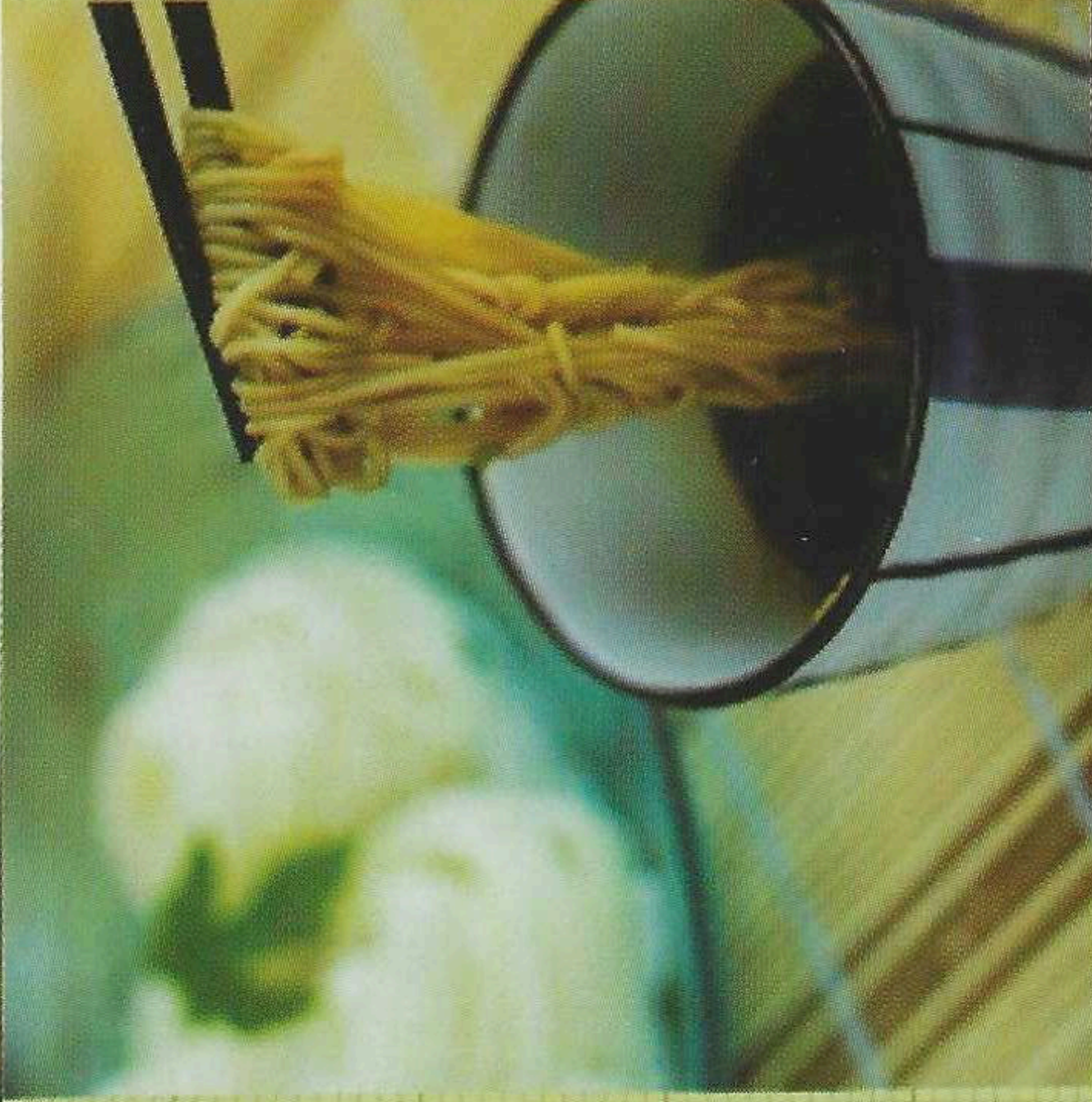
The best part about summer are the grilled food and one of the Japanese grilled favorites for summer is unagi no kabayaki, or glaze-grilled eel. It is famed because it can give a lot of stamina. Unagi refers to the eel that is grilled and steamed, and kabayaki refers to how it is deboned and grilled again after being seasoned with kabayaki or sweet sauce. It is most often served with rice.

The more you know:

The red symbol on the kakigori cup/flag means "ice"

## KAKIGORI

Ever wonder where the Philippine halo-halo came from? It was inspired by no other than kakigori or simply shaved ice with syrup, sweet azuki beans and condensed milk. It can come with different flavors of syrup such as strawberry and (of course) green tea.



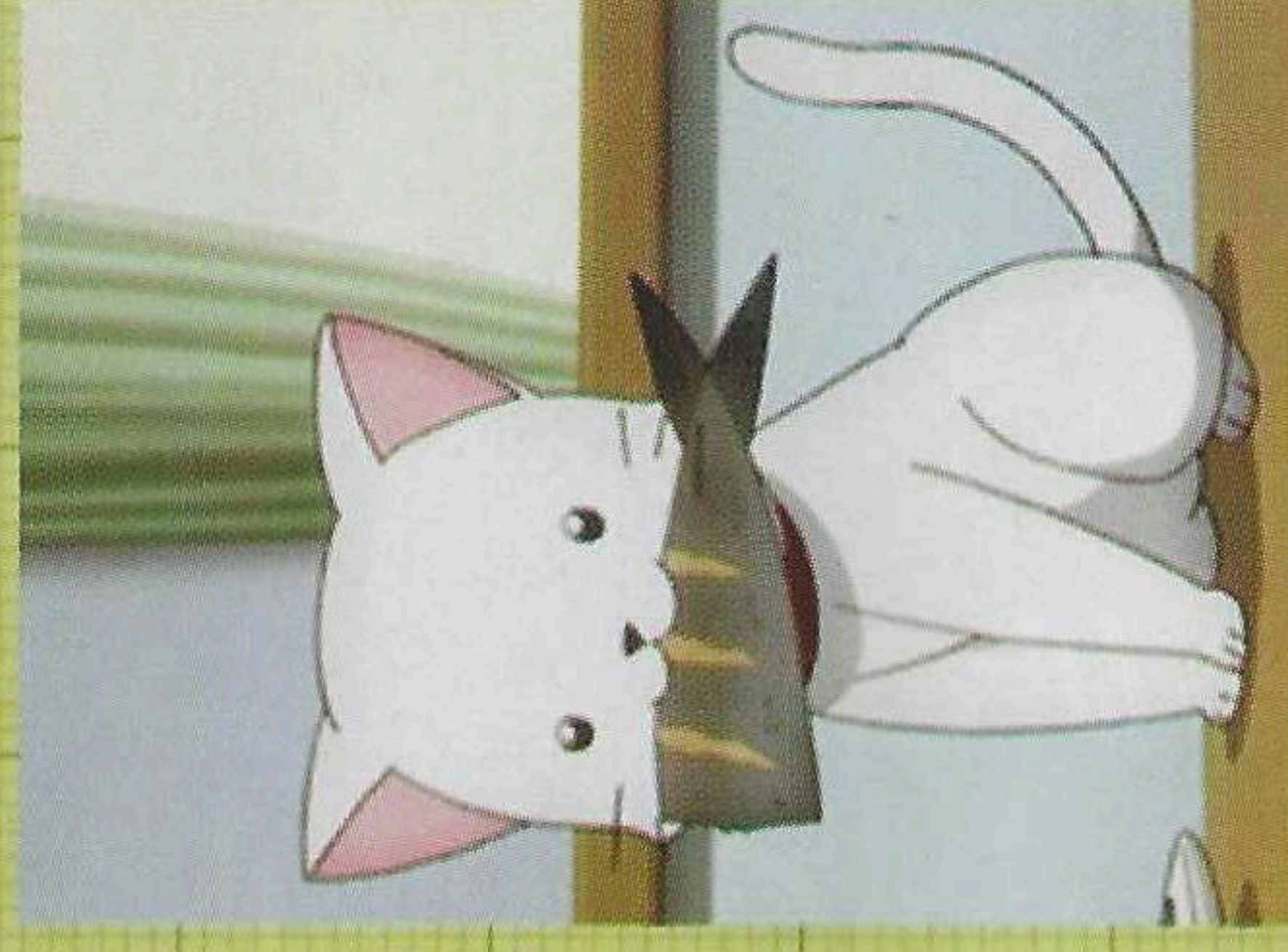
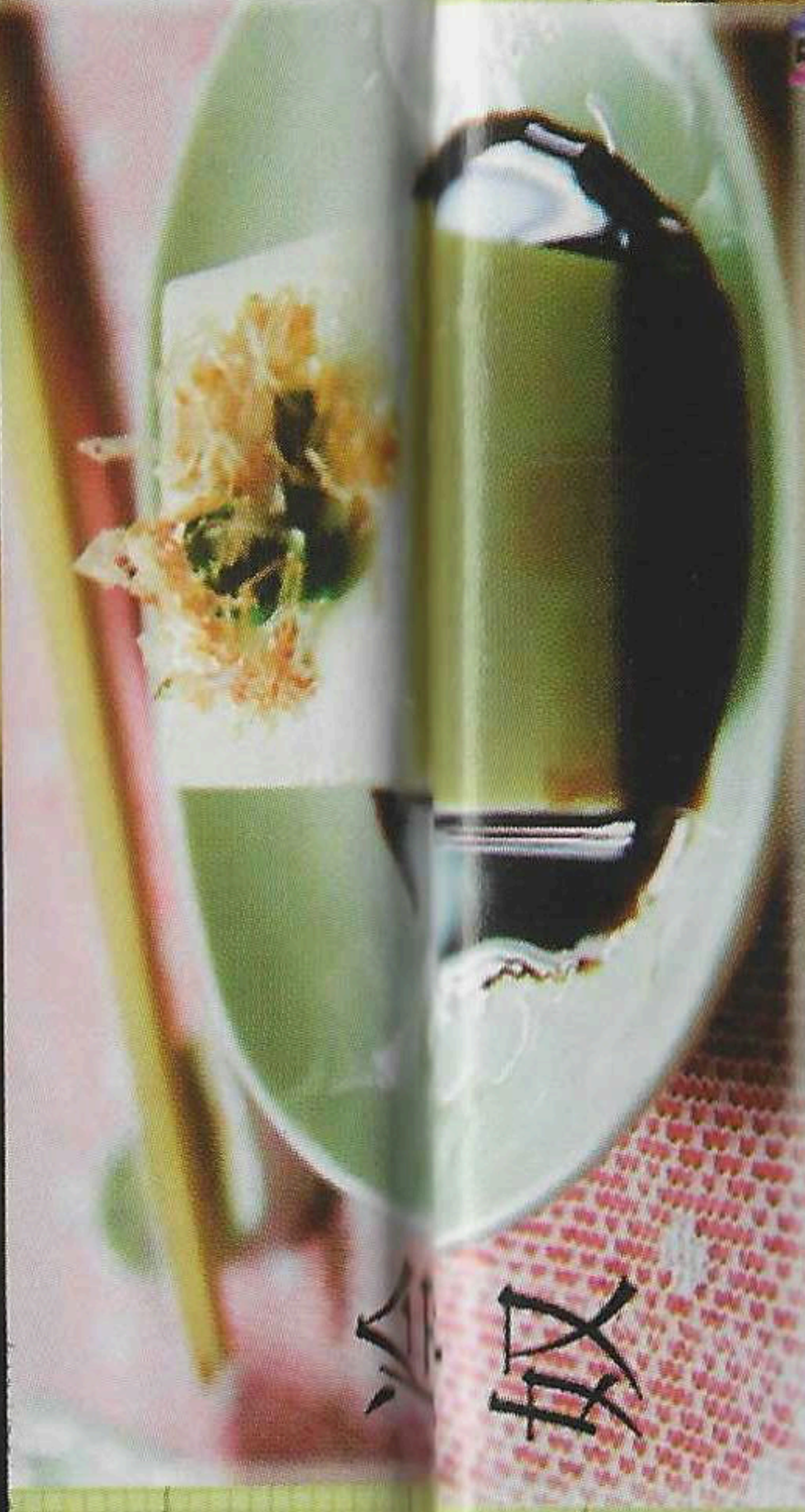
## COLD SOMEN

Noodles are popular in Japan all-year round but during summer, it's always best to eat somen or thin wheat noodles that are boiled and chilled. Somen is served in ice or ice water to make sure it's cold. It is to be dipped into a soup based on soy sauce called mentsuyu and garnished with green onions and ginger.



## HIYAYAKKO

If you think you've had enough cold noodles for a summer day, why not try hiyayakko for a side dish? It's a chilled tofu typically topped with green onion, ginger and katsuobushi (bonito fish flakes), plus soy sauce.



There's definitely more food to explore in a Japanese summer, especially those that can be found in festivals such as takoyaki (ball-shaped Japanese pancake with octopus filling) and taiyaki (fish-shaped pastry with hot, sweet filling). Enjoy the summer heat with good and refreshing eat!





**JUST JAPAN**

# No Sweat Japanese Natsu!

by Ann Flores

Got that sticky and sweaty hot summer feeling? Why not make it fun and worthwhile like the Japanese do?



Osaka to the river.

If you don't like to join the processions, you'd probably enjoy having a picnic in parks while witnessing flower festivals like Nakafurano Lavender Festival.

Summer or natsu in Japan happens during June to August, and is the season where festivals or matsuri are found left and right. Kyoto's Gion Matsuri is a festival of the Yasaka Shrine where the main highlight is the traditional procession of floats that resemble temples. Then, there's also Tenjin Matsuri, a festival of the Tenmangu Shrine where they offer a feast of loud-beating drums during the parade of their deity of scholarship, Sugawara Michizane from the streets of

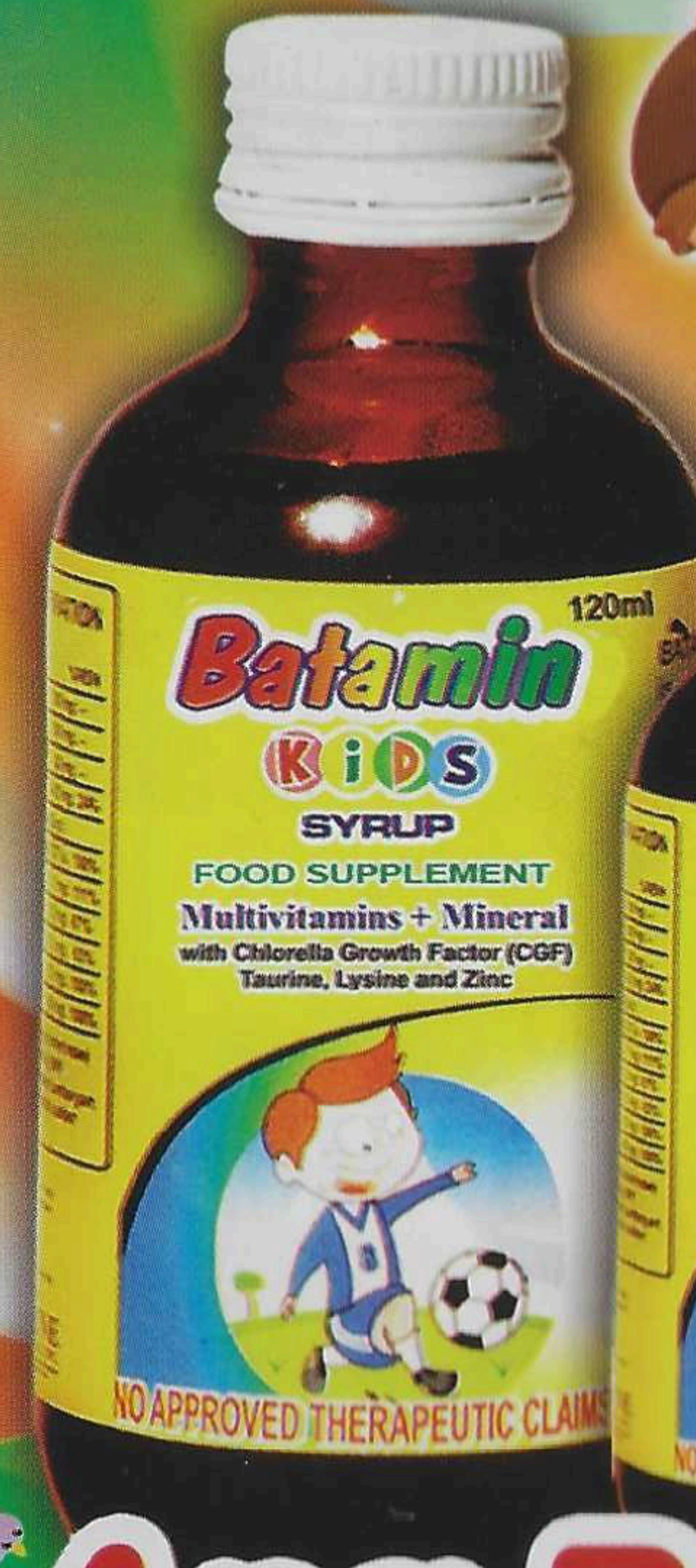
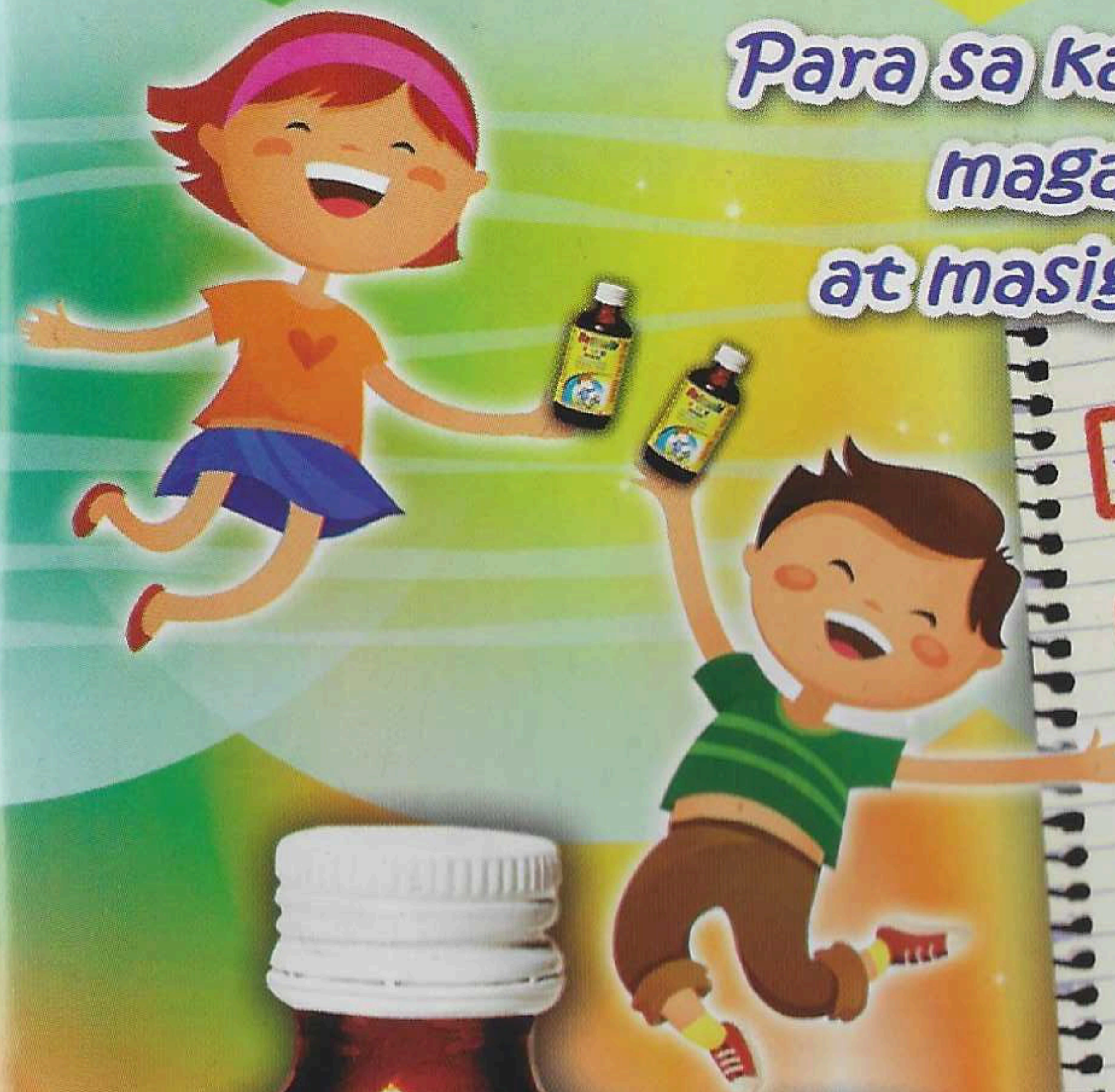


No matsuri or natsu is ever complete without the fireworks or hanabi. Expect the night sky to be painted with colorful lights during summer. Enjoy this scenic view after satisfying your senses with the food and souvenirs, as well as festival games found all over the place.

Aside from festivals, summer also means dipping into the cool water! In Japan, many water parks are open to gratify your body's need to cool down and get rid of the sticky feeling. Or why not go to the beach to swim and build sand castles?



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magandang kalusugan  
at masiglang pangangatawan*



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# TAGCOM2014

## TOYS AND HOBBIES CONVENTION

The event took place at SM Megatradehall Hall 3, April 12 and 13, 2014. Right in the middle of summer, toy collectors and cosplayers got a chance to get out of the house.

An action figure hobbyist gave some tips how to modify and personalize your old action figure. There were KPOP dance battle and JPOP singing contest and of course, lots of cosplayers and toy collectors. Even Alodia Gosiengfiao was spotted interviewing guests wearing a paperbag on her head.

Now on it's 8th year, TAGCOM featured a collection of personalized action figure.





**perkEE**  
personalized items

A year ago, Otaku Asia was born. Our journey truly took off when we started joining and attending events.

In one of those events we saw a shop with felt plushies, beanies and cellphone cases. We searched the shop online and we saw that they can customize any of their products. From bags to hats! We saw that they made a dolls too and we thought of our mascots, Ochibi-sama and Sochii-kun.

The shop was PERKEE Personalized Items. We asked for them to make the dolls. They happily agreed and we got to meet the awesome owner and artist of PerkEE, Yanna Marie P. Polidario and we asked her a few questions while she made the dolls for us.

The dolls were raffled away on our FB page, [facebook.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine](https://www.facebook.com/otakuasiaanimemagazine)

## how Sochii-kun was made (+ dialogue between Yanna and Kaddy)

1. Prepare materials

**materials:**  
fleece cloth  
felt cloth  
doll pattern  
pair of scissors  
needle and thread  
marker  
fiber fill  
fabric glue

I started the shop after I graduated from TUP with a degree in Fine Arts. We started with gameboy wallets, t-shirts. What's special in PerkEE is that we can personalize anything for you. Write your name on a shirt.

yanna

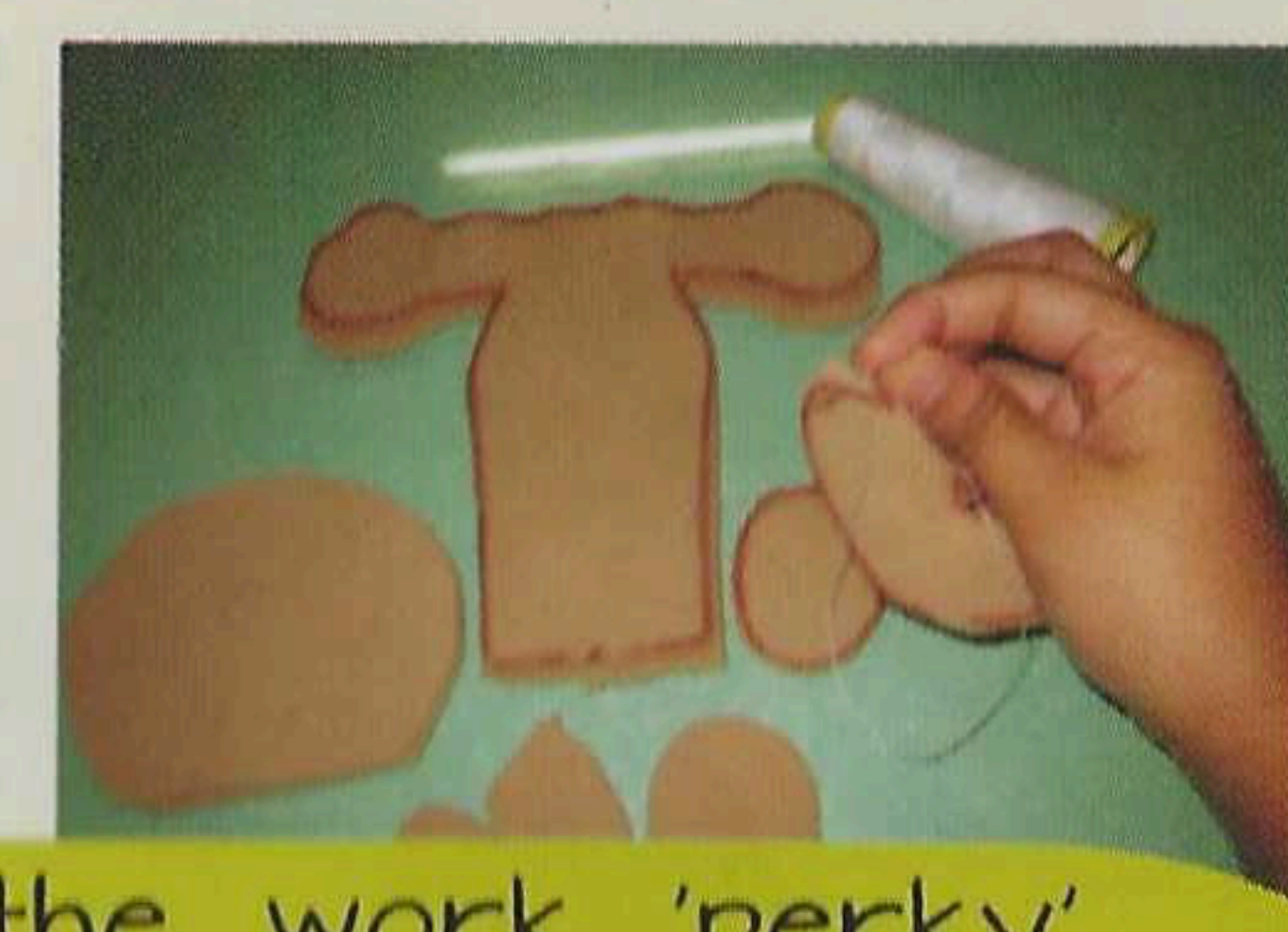
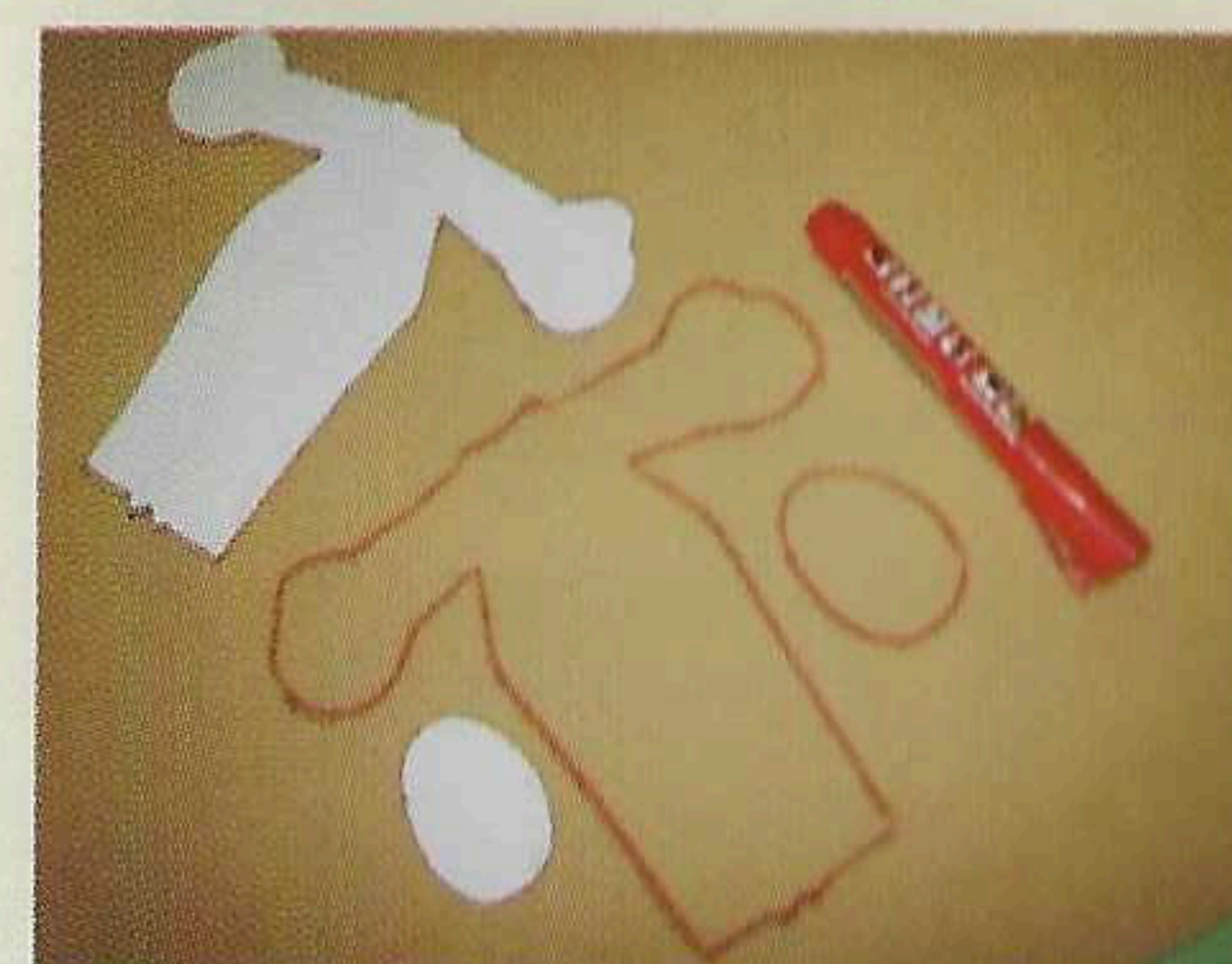
How about your name? PerkEE is a really cute name but does it mean something?

kaddy

2 & 3. Trace your doll pattern on the negative side of a Skin Tone Fleece Cloth and cut it all out.

4. A. Arrange your Cut outs. Put the Positive sides face to face and start sewing the edges. (Sew your fabric on the negative side)

4. B. Put Fiber Fill before you close the entire doll, and there you go, have your Doll Base :D



Awesome! BJ looks like he's having fun with that beannie

We'll continue the tutorial + interview on page 26-27 of this magazine :D

It's from the work 'perky' meaning lively. I just changed the spelling. Changing the y to ee. We recently revamped the logo



**PERKEE**  
PERSONALIZED ITEMS

The bear mascot's name is BJ





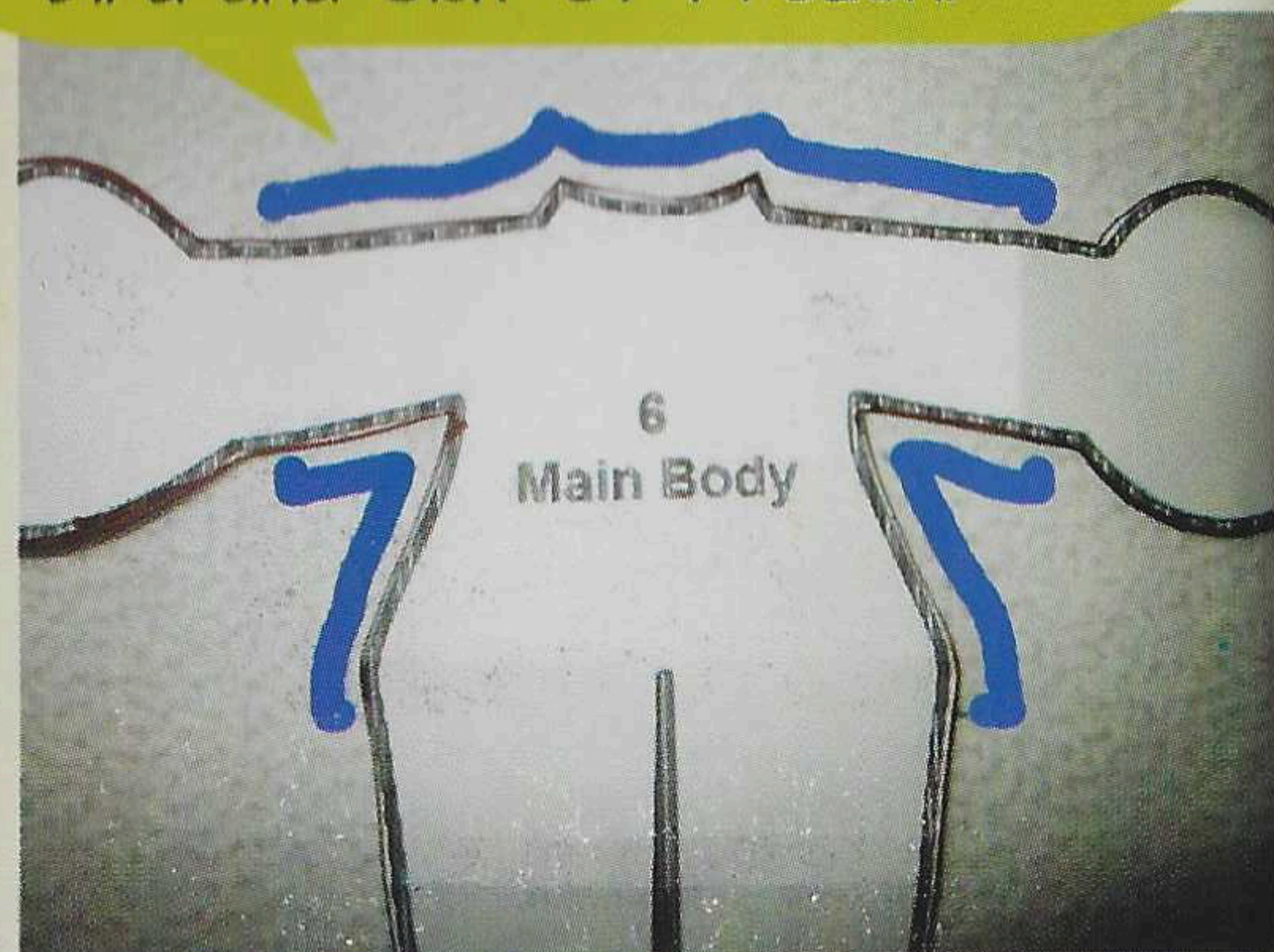
Perkee personalized items have grown and changed through the years. We still accept personalization but we offer more choices. Bags, hats, plushies, purse, cellphone cases!

Our products are 80% felt and fleece products.

That's great, Miss Yanna!

How do you choose which to make into hats, bags and plushies?

At first it was based on the orders and requests, but now with Facebook and media, we know what's popular. Like Flappy bird and Olaf of Frozen.



5. A. Pick the colors of your Character's clothes. It is advisable to use Fleece Cloth also so the clothes will be a bit stretchable.

5. B. You can use your Doll Pattern to make your doll's clothes. But make sure you put at least 0.5 to 1 centimeter allowance from the pattern. This is because your doll is already stuffed, that makes it a little bigger now.

6-7. Cut out your doll's clothes and start sewing it to your doll.



8. For finale, let's work on your doll's details! :D (Hair, Eyes, Mouth, and even other details of its clothes..) You can use felt cloth in here.

On its hair, Draw at least 1 centimeter bigger than your doll's head.

9. Cut the details.

10. start sewing the sides of the hair then put it on the doll's head like it's its helmet. You can sew the bangs and back hair on the head so it won't be removed (Of course :P)

Glue the eyes and mouth using Fabric Glue on you doll's face. Press it for 10 seconds and let it air dry for 10 minutes.

AND FINISHED!! SOCHII-KUN AND OCHIBI-SAMA ARE NOW DOLLS.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE ONLINE GIVEAWAY LAST MARCH. HAVE FUN WITH YOUR DOLLS!







# Miko Garcia



Miko Garcia has cosplayed more than 10 characters of different genres. Cosplaying only his favorite characters and nothing else. On top of that, he makes his own props and helps our fellow cosplayers through his online shop: "The Swords Master" by providing them cosplay props that are high quality at a lower and affordable price.

Otaku Asia got to interview the master himself!

**How did you get into otaku culture?**

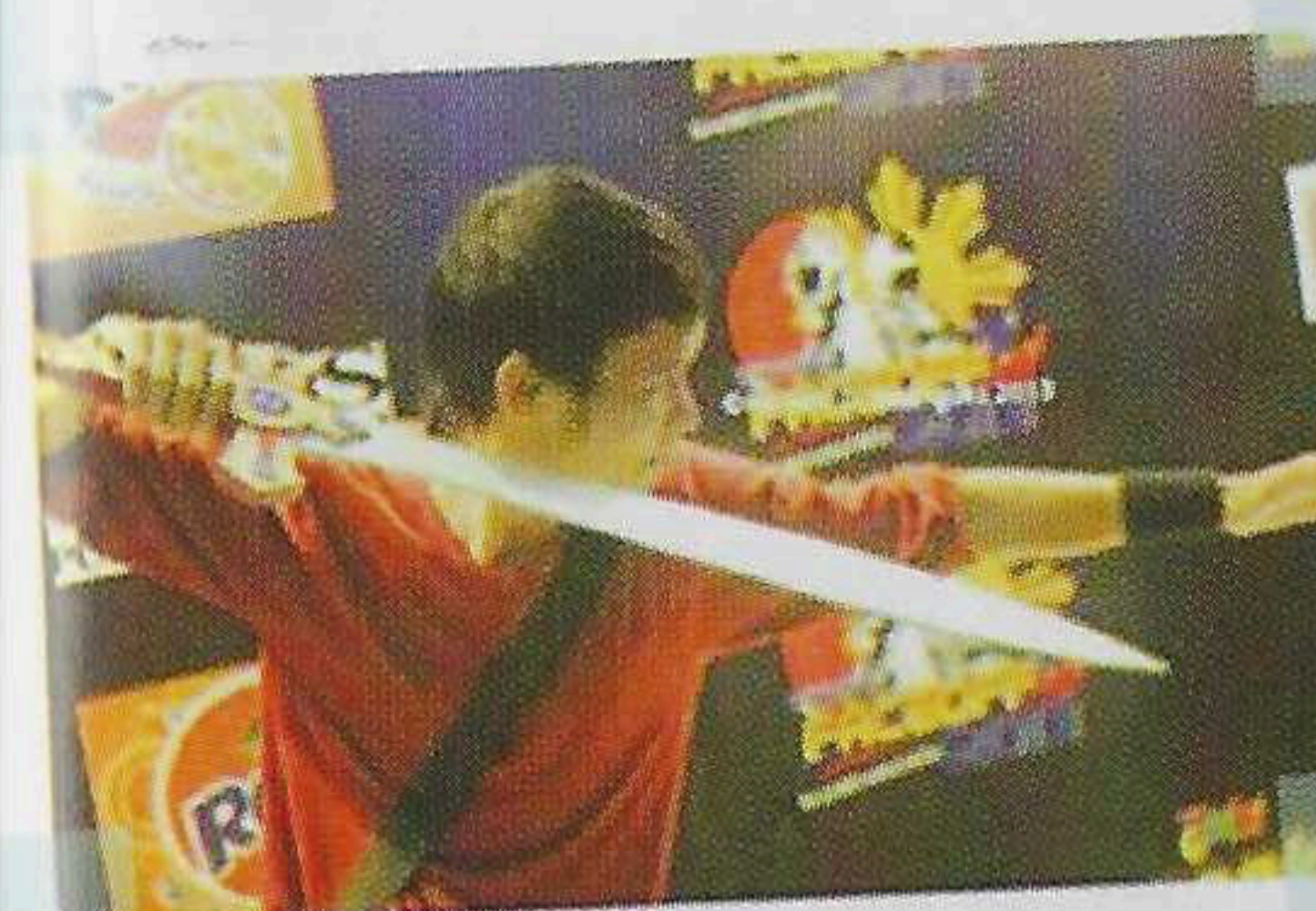
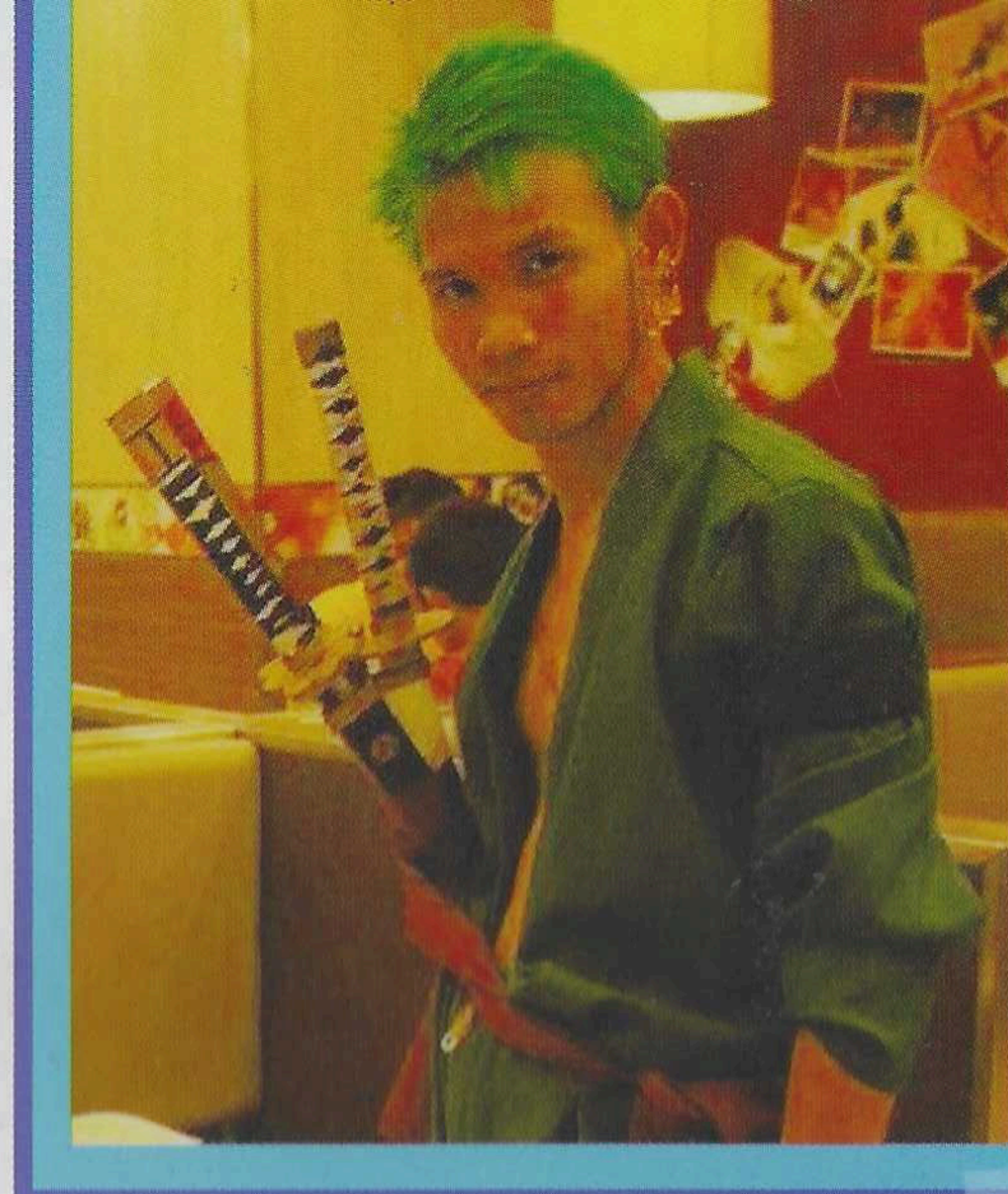
Since I was a kid, I'm a huge fan already of Anime. I remember during that time, the first anime that I've watched was Doraemon.

**What made/encouraged you to start cosplaying?**

What made me start cosplaying is when I want to my idol and favorite character: Zoro (from One Piece) to be brought into real life and thus made me start cosplaying.

**When did you start cosplaying and who was the first character you have ever cosplayed?**

The day that I've decided that I want to portray Zoro.



**What was the first cosplay event that you have attended?**

The first cosplay event that I've attended was the "A Rurouni Kenshin Cosplay competition that was held last December 2, 2012 at SM North Edsa.

**What motivated you to have and open your successful online shop "The swords Master"?**

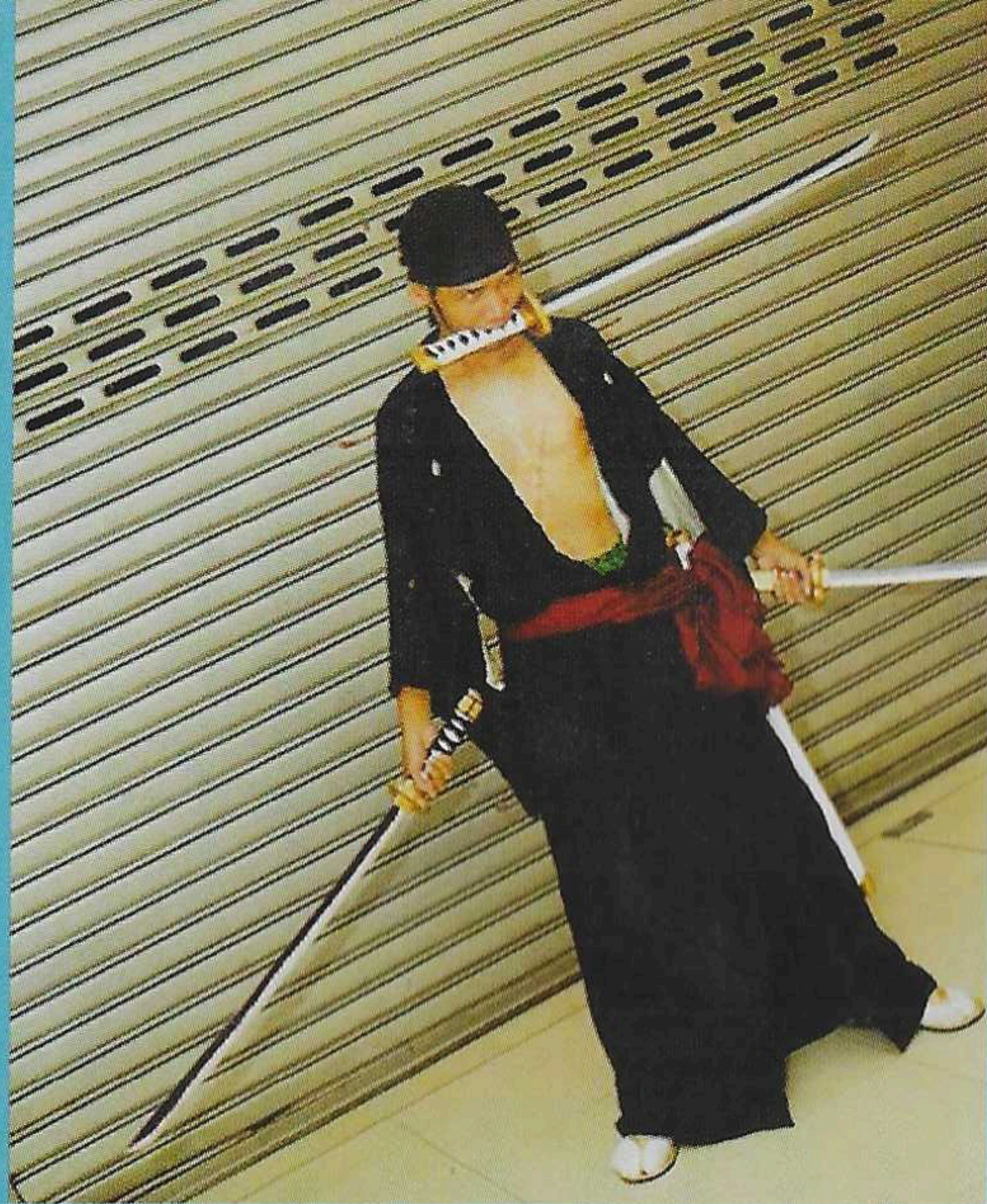
I want to help my fellow cosplayers in making their cosplay monumental by giving them High Quality Props.

**How long have you been doing cosplay props?**

I started last September 2012, so it has been 1 year and 6 months already.







**What is the most challenging and difficult cosplay prop commission you have done and why?**

The most challenging is my own Zero (Megaman) costume.

**Comparing from when you started cosplaying and now, what changes happened to you?**

Many!!! Some of them is to be known among cosplayers and I have gained many friends in the cosplay community.

**Who is your favorite character that you have cosplayed and why?**

My All Time Favorite is Zoro from One Piece because Zoro's Attitude is similar to me :) People mostly see me as simple and quiet person but once you get to know the real me, I'm really friendly and a joker.

**What can you say about the otaku and cosplay culture nowadays here in the Philippines?**

I've notice that the cosplay community here in the Philippines is getting **BIGGER, BETTER!** and at the same time it's getting **WORLD CLASS!**

**What are your plans for this 2014?**

My Plans for 2014 is to make many armors and exciting costumes that will be cosplayed!

Photos Courtesy of their respective photographers:  
Helbert Photography,  
123rdGenFerna, Rico  
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Chronicles.



**Message to all cosplayers here in the Philippines**

**Stand out and BE PROUD! always do your Best!**





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Kung-Fu Day and Hiyas Band

**- GUEST PERFORMANCES -**  
Kryzia Santiago, SEIZA, Raindrop, V's Project, Tarlac Asian Dancers, and Anime Cosplay Empire.

**Fantasm Cosplay Lives Competition**  
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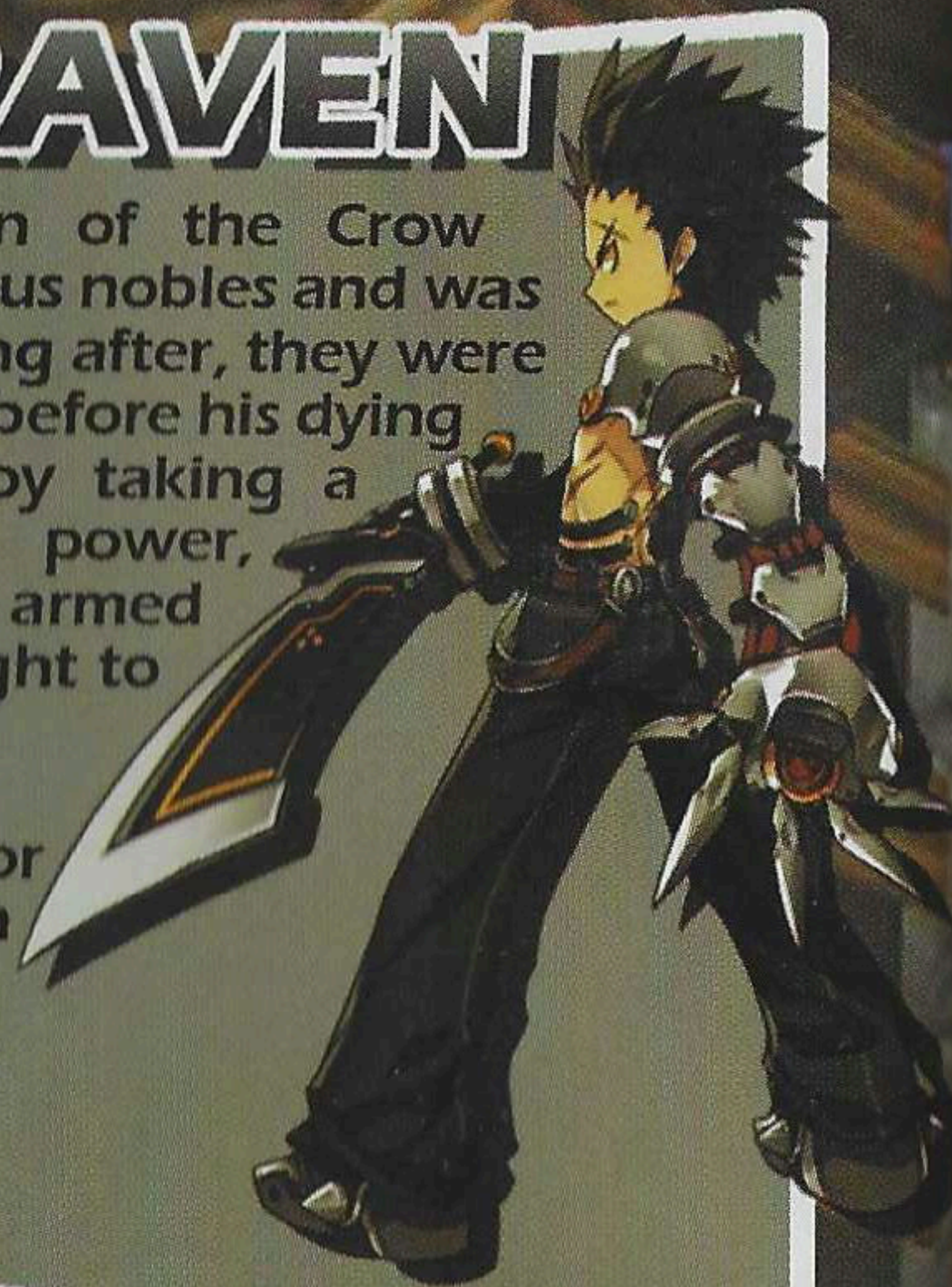


3 Elpeeps has joined the party!  
The once-a-Mercenary who seeks revenge, the  
Queen who wishes to revive her race and the  
Prince who swears to rescue his father.

## RAVEN

Raven was once the Captain of the Crow Mercenaries. He was sentenced to prison by some jealous nobles and was rescued by his friends and fiancée. Not long after, they were slaughtered by the Velder soldiers. Just before his dying breath, Raven managed to survive by taking a contract granting him rebirth and power, offered to him by a Nasod. He woke up armed with a prototype Nasod arm and fought to destroy Velder.

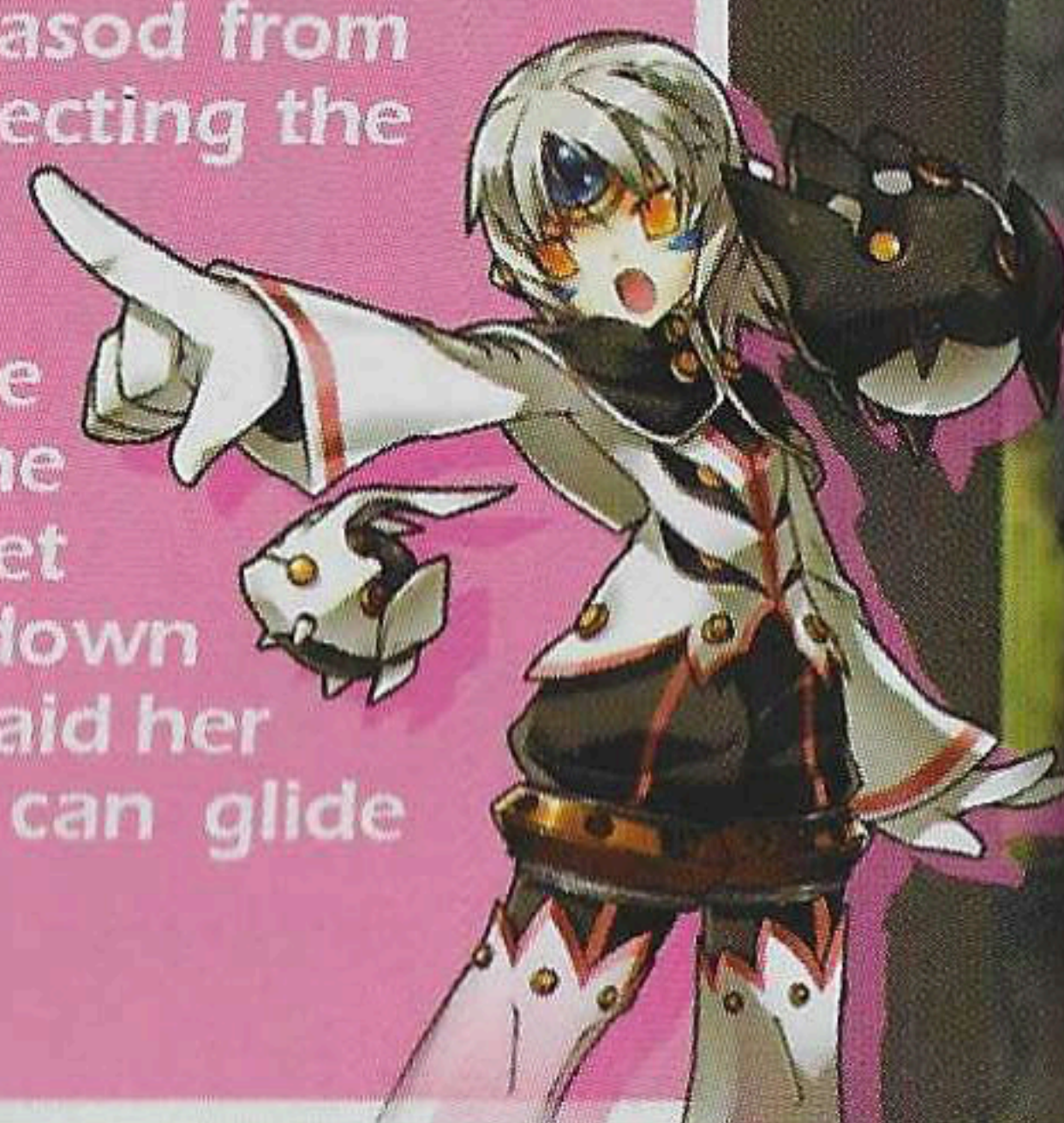
He joined Elsword, hoping to atone for his sins. Using his Nasod claw, he can perform destructive combos together with his blade. He excels in close combats, striking down enemies with a heavy damage.



## EVE

The Little Queen of Nasods.  
Eve is the only remaining preserved upper-class Nasod from the ancient Human vs. Nasod war. She tried resurrecting the King Nasod, but he got corrupted by the dark El.

It was then she met Elsword who said he wanted to be her friend. She decides to join the party to regain the power of El, so she can revive her race once again. Quiet and tactful, Eve uses her Nasod drones to take down enemies. She can also summon her Nasod assistants to aid her in battle. As a being of advanced technology, Eve can glide through the air by the help of her drones.



## CHUNG

A prince hailing from the Seiker family. Chung may look soft and delicate, but he is not weak in a tough combat. Using a large cannon called Destroyer and wearing a full armor called Freiturnier, Chung can move and swish his cannon as light as a feather. He has the ability to transform into Berserk mode where he can be seen wearing a helmet. He can reload freely to maintain his cannon's ammo to fight.

He was saved by Elsword and his friends during a battle with his corrupted father in Senace Kingdom. He swears to himself that he will get stronger and come back to rescue his father from the demons that possessed him.



# Ready for the 3rd path?

The 3rd class path release opens new skills and combos for the players. Following the original storyline, Elsword and the gang improves their skills and weapons for quicker and more powerful combat styles.

Harnessing the power of the dark El, the red-head can now summon unlimited number of swords.



**ELSWORD**  
Sheath Knight  
Infinity Sword

Combining her magic with the Moonstone's power, our Mahou shoujo idol can now control time and dimensions.



**AISHA**  
Battle Magician  
Dimension Witch

With her broken Erendil being enhanced by the Ponggos she helped, the beautiful elf will be jumping in the battlefield!



**RENA**  
Trapping Ranger  
Night Watcher

Execute more Fire-Blasting combos as the Commander's new Nasod arm is now able to overheat beyond limitations!



**RAVEN**  
Weapon Taker  
Veteran Commander

Constructing a code from the power of El, Eve is now able to fire lethal Electron lasers also making her combos and dodge faster.



**EVE**  
Code: Electron  
Code: Battle Seraph





## CON IN FOCUS

# CAVITE CITY COSFEST



Cosplay has become a very popular hobby in the Philippines and even though Manila is the place where most events were held, we musn't forget the ones outside Manila.

Cavite City Cosfest and ultimately known as C3 was presented by Subsonic Forge and Anime Carousel though the efforts of Solido Caviteño,

Since Cavite City is a peninsula, it really takes time to get in there in land if you're from Manila.

There was a photobooth, battle of the bands and cosplay competitions. The cosplay competition focuses on Garena's Elsword (1st day) and League of Legends (2nd day).



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# COVER FEATURE

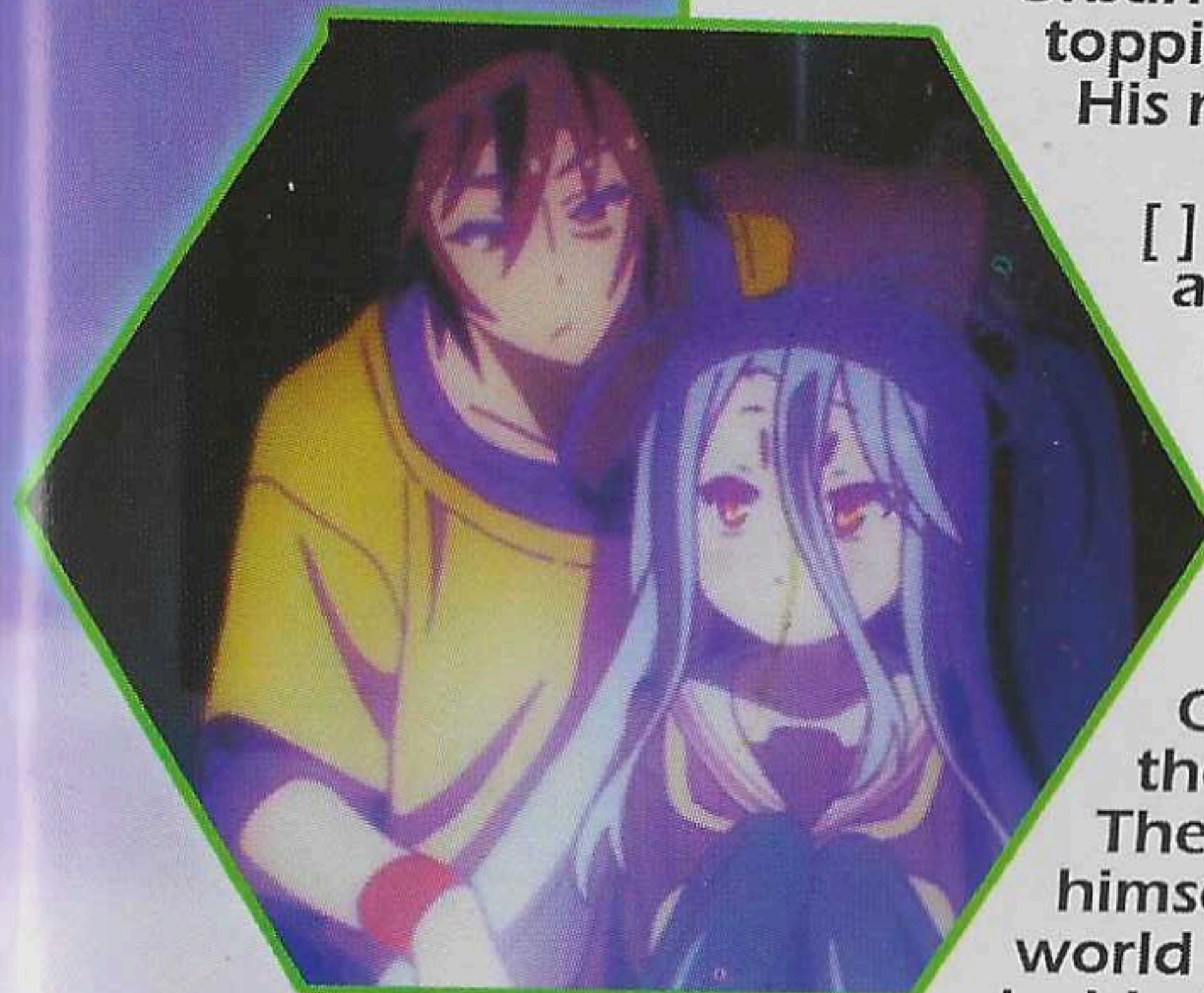
BY JAMES



## DON'T HATE THE GAME LOVE THE PLAYERS!



The world is considered a "worthless game" to a very famous online gamer who always prioritizes gaming and do nothing on his life but to play online games. But if this gamer is always on the top, what kind of life can you imagine this guy has? Maybe you're thinking of a hikikomori. **No Game No Life** is a story of a famous online gamer who will engage on an thrilling life of an online game that would be put to reality.



Urban legend speak of a person who has been topping the rankings of hundreds of online games. His name is [ ]. Yes, just a spacebar.

[ ] is neither a he nor just a person. You see, [ ] is actually a sibling duo: an eleven year-old girl, **Shiro** and her eighteen year-old brother, **Sora**. Shut-ins abandoned by their parents at a young age, they hate reality with a passion, so much so that they believe that they are born into the wrong world.

One day, they received an email asking them if they want to be in a new and exciting realm. They're invited to by a young boy who claimed himself as "**God**" and engaged them into a fantasy world where violence and all conflict would be decided through a game – and the two consider it the perfect world that they want to have.



However, it's not as peachy as it sounds, for humans in this new world, known as Imanity, are on a horrible losing streak against other races to occupy **Elcrae**, the smallest territory in all the land. Sounds like a bad deal for the two of them, right?

Well, if you're [ ], there's no such thing as bad deals, only challenging games. And the greater the challenge, the greater the glory.



The art is just mesmerizing, as it gives a surreal feel not only of its characters but also of its world. The colors, always vivid and bright that it's almost neon, adds a sense of excitement to its viewers. The characters have very fluid movement, making their actions very natural and believable. Nothing less from **Madhouse Animation Studios**.



The premise is definitely not new, but the show gives the overused "stuck in a new world" plot a new light thanks to its two protagonists and setting. Instead of the nice dumb hero who's trying to save the world, we get two not-so-nice super-smart siblings who are just playing games for the love of it, as well as to prove they are the best in the business. In fact, they are so good that it's actually safe to assume that they'll win most of the time because of their own skill, not because of plot armor. Instead, the show makes the audience guess on how the two will win. In the anime playing games would cease to become a mere form of entertainment and instead become a serious matter.





However, despite putting a heavier tone on the game-playing part of the plot, it doesn't really take away the fun and excitement of seeing our heroes outplay and outwit their opponents in their own game with style and flair.

As an additional bonus, through Shiro and Sora's awesome analytical skills and high-level intelligence, different game theories, techniques, concepts, and other cool trivia are explained and broken down. With this, the viewer gets additional knowledge.

Another plus for the anime is the complexity of its two leads and their relationship with each other, as Shiro and Sora aren't exactly who they project themselves to be. Even though they always seem cool and collected on the outside, Sora is socially inept, while Shiro is dependent on her older brother to a fault. However, said flaws also highlight the pair's need for symbiotic relationship, as they have to cover each other's weaknesses not only in the games they play, but also in the life they live.



With stylish animation that will leave you hyped beyond belief, awesomely colorful and multi-faceted leads, a well-built world that serves as not only a setting but also an analysis of how life run by games would be like, and exciting games that will blow you away and make you put on your thinking cap, No Game No Life will be your life this month.





# PLAYER SELECT



## SORA

The male and older half of [ ]. Being a recluse, he's never had a girlfriend, let alone friends. Nevertheless, he's more than content rocking the online gaming world with his sister, Shiro. Confident in his and his sister's abilities almost to the point of conceit, he can play mind games with his opponents as he snidely smiles. However, he's still got a bit of a nice side, as he's more than willing to help Stephanie Dora and the rest of Imanity claim back the land. Of course, he's got his ulterior motive, which is to be the best there is.



## SHIRO

She is the female and younger half of [ ]. A natural genius, she is good not only in games, but also in mathematics and languages. Although she is stoic most of the time, she definitely cannot hide her soft spot from her brother, who frequently dotes on her. Because of this, she has grown too needy of him. Still, she is an important part of [ ], so Sora keeps it that way, just how he likes it.



## STEPHANIE DORA



Stephanie is the granddaughter of the old king of Elcrae. Despite getting exemplary grades in her formal education, she isn't talented in playing games, as she lost in a card tournament for the throne of the kingdom. Thankfully, she met [ ]. Not only did she meet them, she has also fallen in love with Sora against her will, as it was one of his conditions. However, she does not seem to mind, because she has found hope for Imanity in our unlikely heroes.



## TET

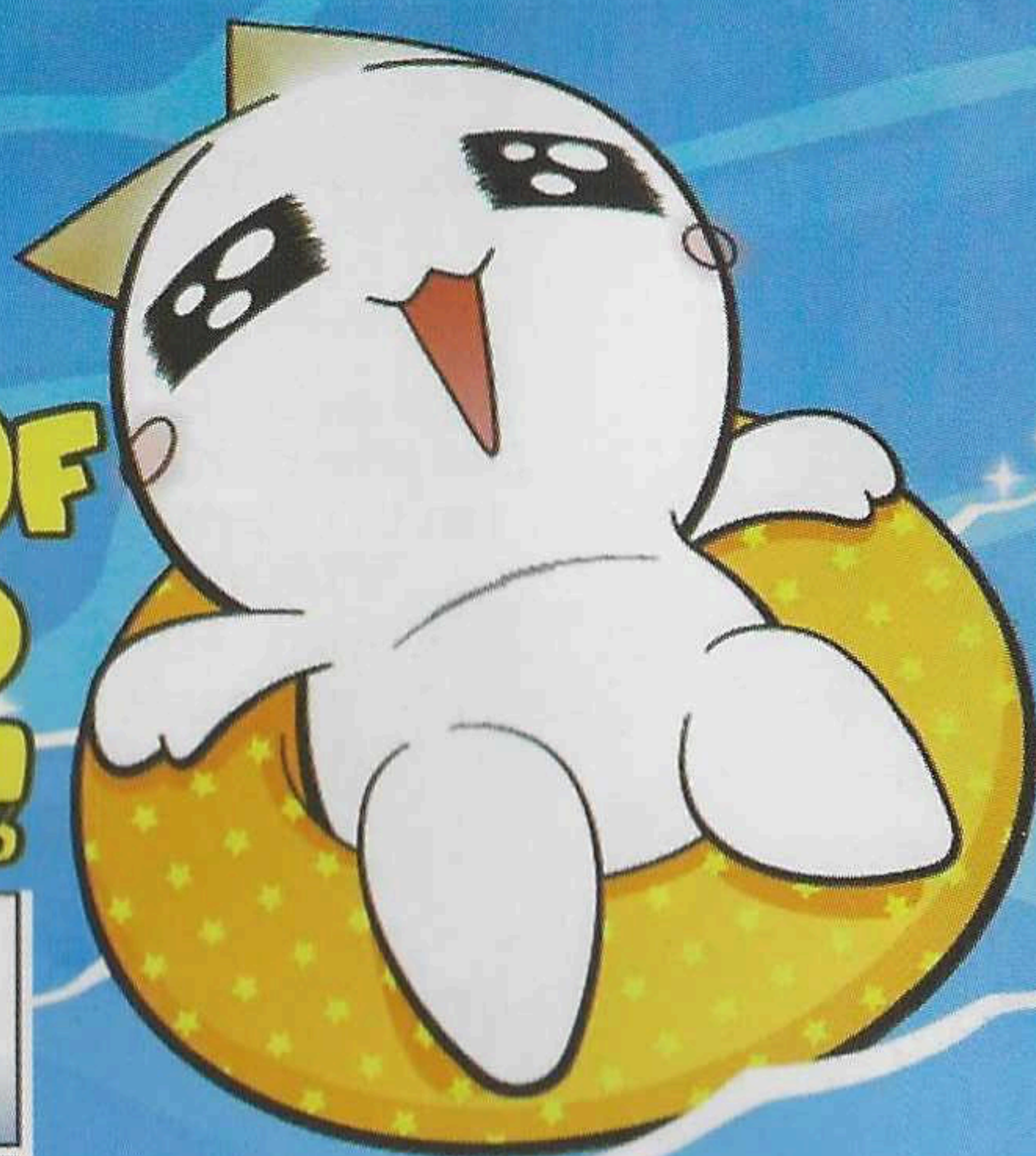
Referred to as "God", he is the one responsible for bringing Sora and Shiro to the other world. Aside from the fact that he's a powerful deity who oversees the realm and enforces its unbreakable rules, not much is known about him.



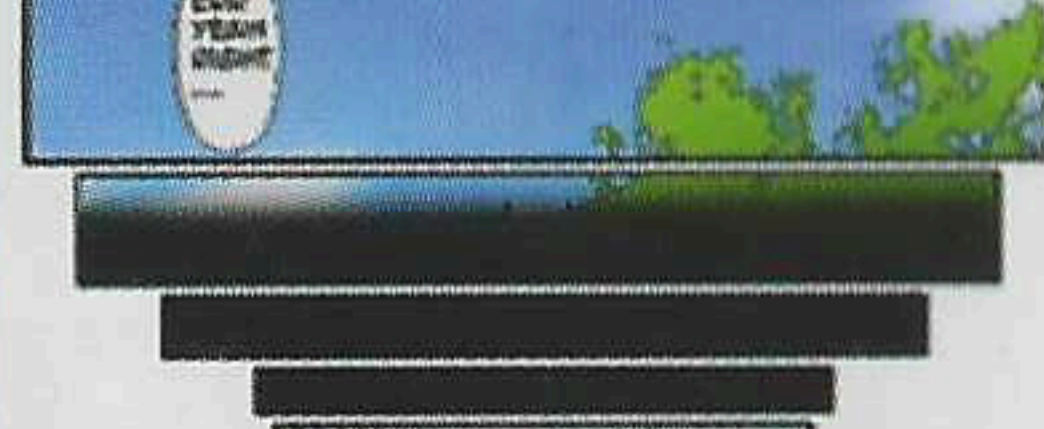
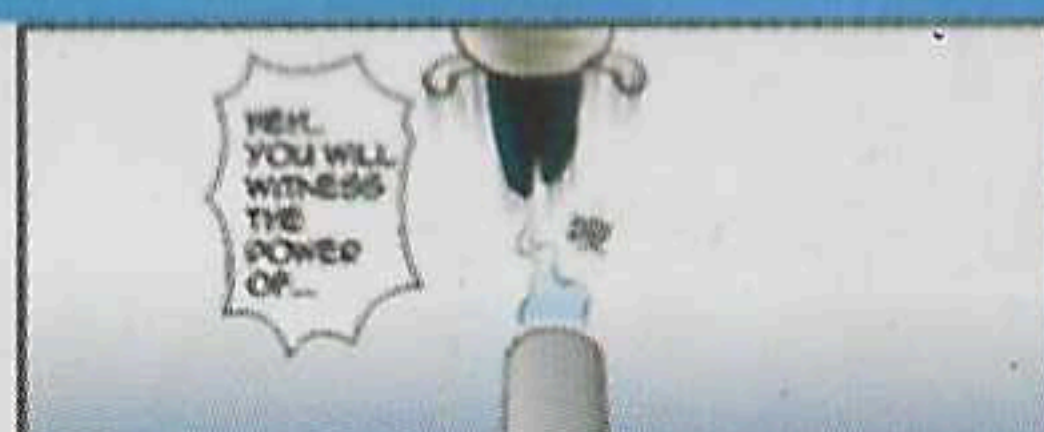
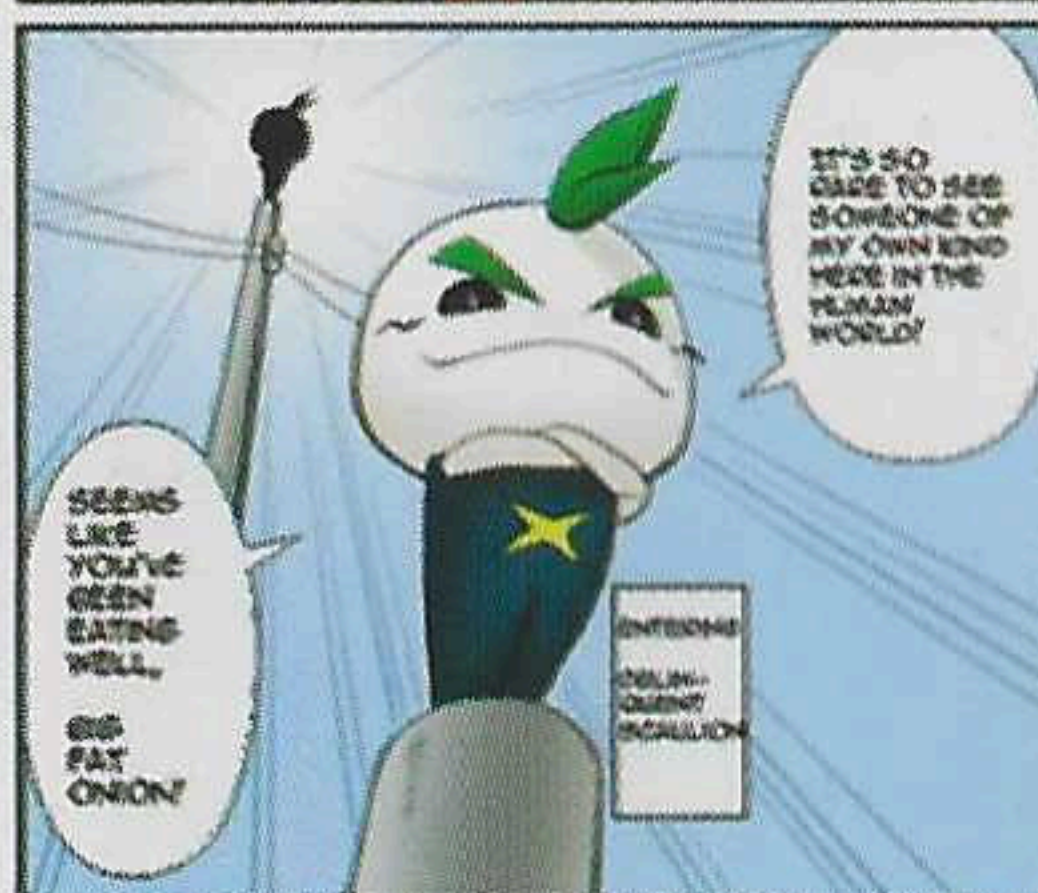




# THE ONION OF A THOUSAND EXPRESSIONS!



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by Levin

In the internet, we love including emoticons in messages when relaying a juicy gossip to a friend, when texting your mom that you're already on your way home, or when telling your special someone how you miss them. These emoticons have different kinds. Some people prefer using simple smileys, while some prefer a more specific and more suggestive one like Onion Head. And I'm willing to bet that you've seen Onion Head at some point.

The Onion Head (also known as Onion-Tou, Onion-kun, or name Abo) is an anthropomorphic onion created by Taiwan artist **Ethan Lui**, as a part of a series of characters collectively called The Onion Club. Onion Head is an expressive character, often depicted in with various exaggerated expressions.

As of May 2011, The Onion Club consists of four characters, namely Abo, Meiya, Greaser, and E. However, Abo is depicted the most frequently. Onion Head also has spawned off a series of merchandise, including a brand sponsored by the Taiwan Planned Parenthood Association.

And now that you know about Onion Head, go ahead and start using him as an emoticon and let your family and friends laugh their heart out with Onion Head's very colorful expressions!

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WHERE CLOSE ENOUGH  
IS NOT ENOUGH











**HOT ANIME**

written by: Seku Hara

# THEIR STORY CONTINUES...

## Monogatari Second Season

A new trimester has started for Koyomi Araragi and the girls, but the threat of the apparitions is getting closer. Six new stories have begun, about Tsubasa Hanekawa, Mayoi Hachikuji, Suruga Kanbaru, Nadeko Sengoku, Shinobu Oshino and Hitagi Senjougahara. Are you ready to witness their soliloquies, confessions and farewells?

Monogatari: Second Season is an anime adaptation of the Monogatari light novel series written by NisiOisiN and illustrated by Vofan. The series is once again directed by Akiyuki Shinbo and produced by the animation studio Shaft. Opening theme songs are performed by the seiyuus of the main heroines related to their respected arcs and three ending songs by Luna Haruna for the first 10 episodes, Kawano from episodes 11 to 20 and both from episode 21 onwards.

Monogatari: Second Season is separated into arcs based from five out of six volumes of its light novel counterpart.

A separate anime adaptation set to be aired sometime in 2014 titled "Monogatari: Second Season +α" featuring Hanamonogatari.

## STORY ARCS

### Nekomonogatari: Shiro

It's the first day of the new semester when Tsubasa meets a apparition in the form of a white tiger on her way to school and tells Hitagi about it upon arriving at school. She later discovered that her house was burned down. Homeless, Tsubasa told her parents that she will sleep at a friend's house, but decided to spend the night at the abandoned cram school where Oshino lived. While Koyomi is missing in action, Hitagi comes to help Tsubasa.

### Kabukimonogatari

With the intention of finishing his summer homework, Koyomi and Shinobu accidentally traveled 11 years into the past. Then he decided to save Mayoi to prevent her death and becoming a ghost. However, Koyomi's action made a drastic change in history and unwittingly led the world to its destruction.

### Otorimonogatari

Nadeko agreed to help Kuchinawa find a certain object as atonement for killing its fellow white snakes. With Kuchinawa residing within Nadeko, she expresses her true feelings. Nadeko revealed her wish to the snake apparition after finding a talisman in Koyomi's room that her love towards him to become requited. But Koyomi asserts that it is not possible.

### Onimonogatari

Koyomi and Mayoi came across a mysterious being and started chasing them down until Yotsugi saved them. When he inquired Shinobu about the entity he they saw, she claims that she had seen them before and tells a story about her first visit in Japan 400 years ago. The darkness will cause the destruction of the city if nothing is done with it, unless...

### Koimonogatari

Hitagi requested Kaiki's services as a con man to trick Nadeko into abandoning her plans to kill her and Koyomi on their graduation day. As he was able to trick Nadeko into moving on with her life, he asks Koyomi to sever all ties to Nadeko.



MOVIE REEL

劇場版

# TIGER & BUNNY

## The Beginning

by Lizzie

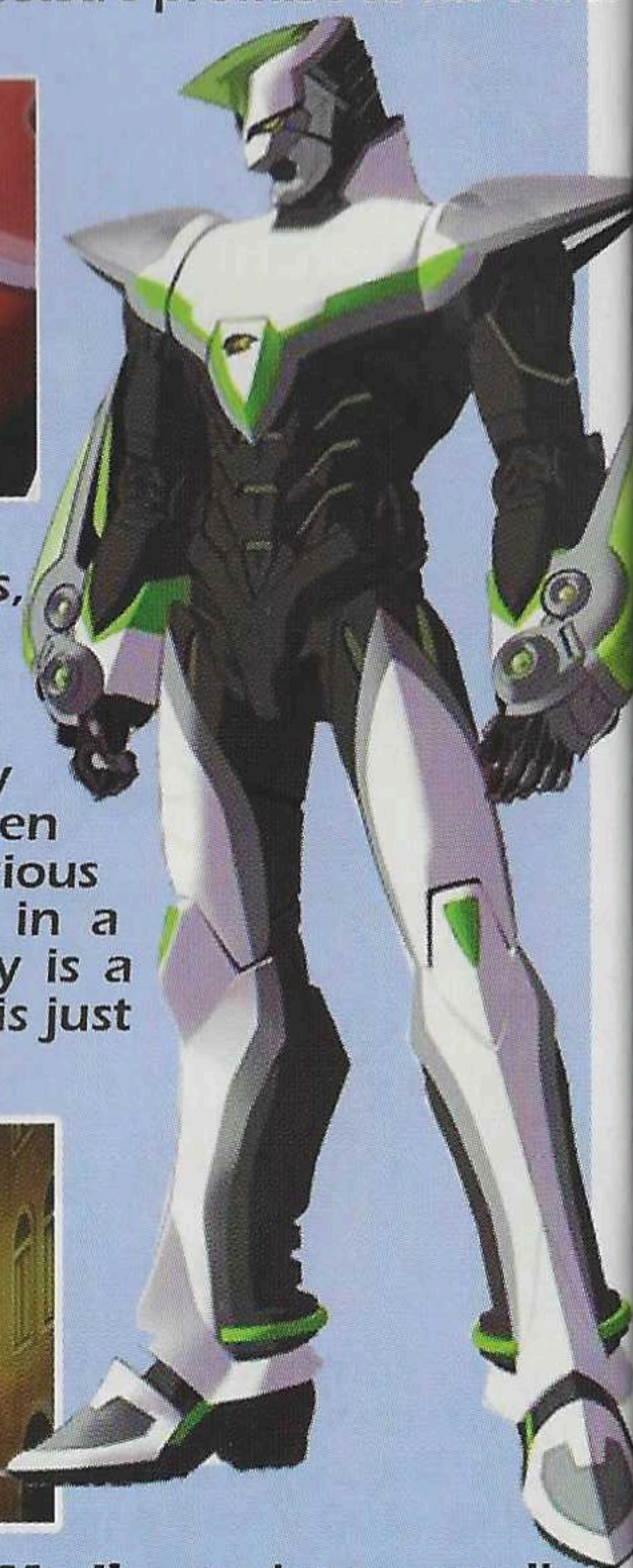
Where do you start after a certain phase in your life ends?

Key moments like the end of a school year or graduation, just like most of you have just gone through, are primarily the starting point of a new phase. This is also how **Kotetsu T. Kaburagi** deals with losing his wife, **Tomoe**. The mere memory of his wife's smiling face makes Kotetsu melancholic and even after five years since his wife's death, she still serves as an inspiration to Kotetsu, and he strives hard to start anew amidst problems.

**Tiger & Bunny: The Beginning** highlights the progress of Kotetsu's promise to his wife: to be a commendable hero.



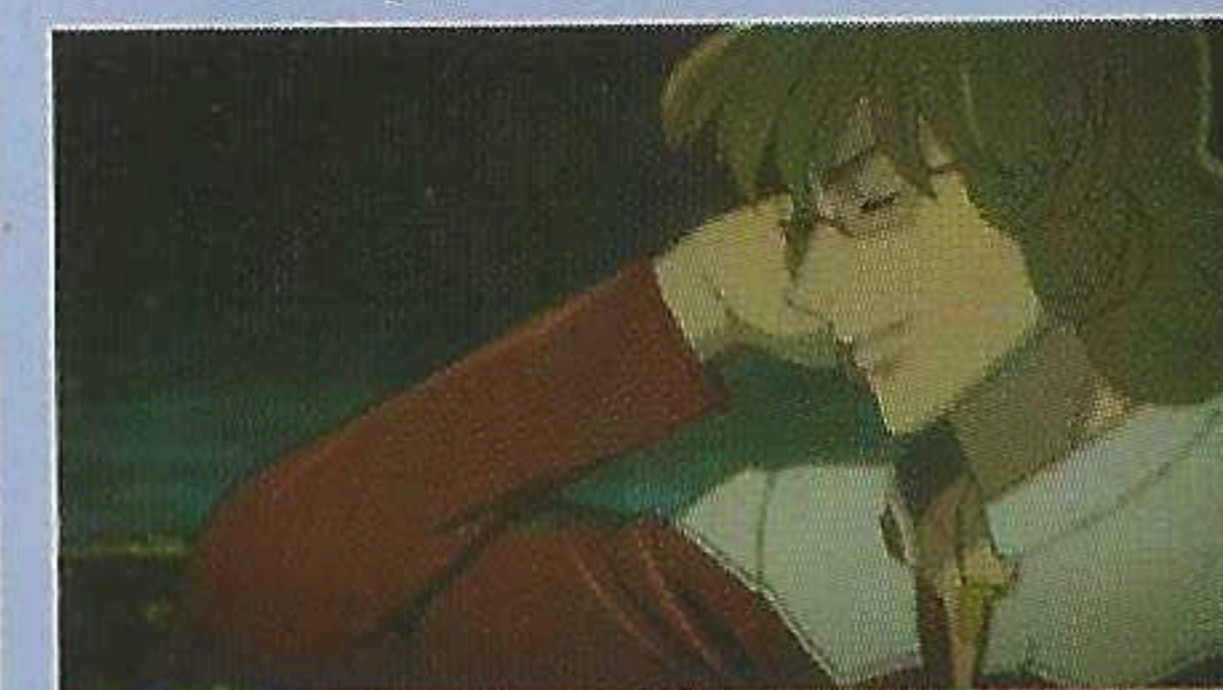
Known as "**Wild Tiger**" to his managers and colleagues, **Kotetsu** is a long-time hero managed and sponsored by **Top MaG**. His **NEXT** power was activated when he was kidnapped as a child. He appears in **Hero TV** which televises the battles of **NEXT** heroes with criminals. Kotetsu's limelight doesn't really shine on despite his experience as a hero, but he is helpful even at the absence of cameras. Meanwhile, **Barnaby** is a mysterious blonde who appears out of nowhere and saves Kotetsu in a dangerous encounter against robbers. For Kotetsu, Barnaby is a smug and boastful person. Meanwhile, for Barnaby, Kotetsu is just an old man who has no capabilities and always needs saving.



In the following days, Kotetsu discovers that **Alleron Media**, a huge media conglomerate bought **Top MaG**, compelling them to follow the new management. Their new employers want to build a popular duo comprised of **Wild Tiger** and the then independent contractor who's now part of their show, **Barnaby Brooks Jr.**. The duo's first huge assignment, together with other **NEXT** heroes, is to capture **Robin Baxter**. He is infamous for stealing world-renowned treasures, never getting caught even for once. With this challenging task at hand, how can **Wild Tiger & Barnaby** capture the criminal? Can Kotetsu continuously grant his wife's wish for him to be a hero, despite being anti-thesis with his new partner?



Once again, we are reminded of **Kotetsu** and **Barnaby's** contrasting personalities in **Tiger & Bunny: The Beginning**. The first few minutes of the film have been devoted to the re-narration of the first two episodes of **Tiger & Bunny** series. This is advantageous for people lacking the knowledge of the anime series. On the other hand, the audience of **Tiger & Bunny** series may feel déjà vu once they watch **Tiger & Bunny: The Beginning**, which may be a drawback of the film. However, revisiting **Kotetsu** and **Barnaby's** meeting is significant for the development of the story. The relationship of these two characters needs to be well-established in order for the audience to track their character development; what with the bad first impressions they have on each other and the constant bickering that comes before and after they become partners.



Both **Kotetsu** and **Barnaby** are hard-headed and prefer working alone. They are also fuelled by their passion to fulfil their dreams, **Kotetsu** being a hero, and **Barnaby** primarily for avenging his parents' death. In their team, both want to take lead. An unhealthy working relationship like theirs might not be able to build trust, which is one of the most important elements in teamwork. However, **Tiger & Bunny: The Beginning** has set a difficult task for the duo to perform, forcing them to acknowledge each other's presence, if not to work hand-in-hand, at least.

The film has recreated **Sternbild City** and their heroes with **NEXT** powers, showcasing the superb detailed animation done by the animation studio **Sunrise**. Other **NEXT** heroes are also present in the film, showing off their newly built costumes and heightened powers. They have been quite energetic in the film to show everyone that they're ready to fight the criminals in **Sternbild** while maintaining their healthy rivalry with one another.

**Tiger & Bunny: The Beginning** is a movie about the clash of old and new relationships, and how the characters deal with the promises they have made for their loved ones regardless of time. The film teaches us that even though some things ought to start bad, it opens up a new chance for us to try again, thus the birth of new beginnings.







# MANGA MAIRUNOVICH by pam

Love is one of the key reasons that girls transform into a blooming lady. They become aware of their surroundings and conscious of their appearances, so that they can be attractive to their loved ones. What if this transformation is not because of love, but for revenge?

Is revenge more effective than love?  
Will this be a new kind of punishment or a new beginning of change?

**Mairu Kinoshita** is a 16-year old high school student who is very apologetic of her ugly appearance. Even though she is blessed with such a cute name; she is continuously being mistreated by her classmates and even her older brother, Airu. She is also nicknamed by her classmates as "**Poison Mushroom**". Despite all of this, her transvestite childhood friend **Fuwari-chan** never fails to give advice to Mairu.

One day, there was a letter from a student named **Ikeda** saying that they should meet. The curious Mairu goes to the meeting place and finds Ikeda waiting for her. He confessed to her saying that he is interested in her. As the naive bespectacled girl she is, she didn't suspect the trap hole.

The harsh incident made her realize that the world is all about appearances, until the words of the most popular student **Kumada Tenyuu** inspires her to change.

The gloomy, bespectacled, unfashionable, mushroom-hair cut and ugly Mairu reborn into a beautiful and sparkling Mairu Kinoshita.

Will she take revenge on the students who mistreated her?

How will she manage this new appearance?

Can this be a new development to her life?



Mairunovich is a comedy, shoujo, romance and school life manga written and drawn by **Sato Zakuri**. It is an on-going status with total 31 chapters' release serialized in **Margaret** (Shueisha).

It's story of a girl who transforms from being ugly into a beautiful lady. It is an opportunity to be confident with herself and be able to fall in love. This story can touch the readers' struggles on early changes and realization when it comes to love and self-confidence.



Want to witness more of Mairu's struggle on being beautiful?

Read more of Mairunovich or buy the manga.

Why choose between "health" and "taste"...  
when you can have **BOTH**

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SEKIREI

# Fight or Love!

by: James

Fight for your love.  
Of course, you shouldn't take it literally.  
But for the sekirei, they do it to live.

What's a Sekirei, you ask? In 2020, the SEKIREI are 108 extraterrestrial super-powered beings with a genetic code similar to humans who came down to Earth. They were discovered and modified by the MBI Corporation and were later on released for the Sekirei Plan, which involves the sekirei finding their ashikabi and then fighting one another until only one is left, and the ashikabi of the last sekirei will have the fate of the world in his hands.

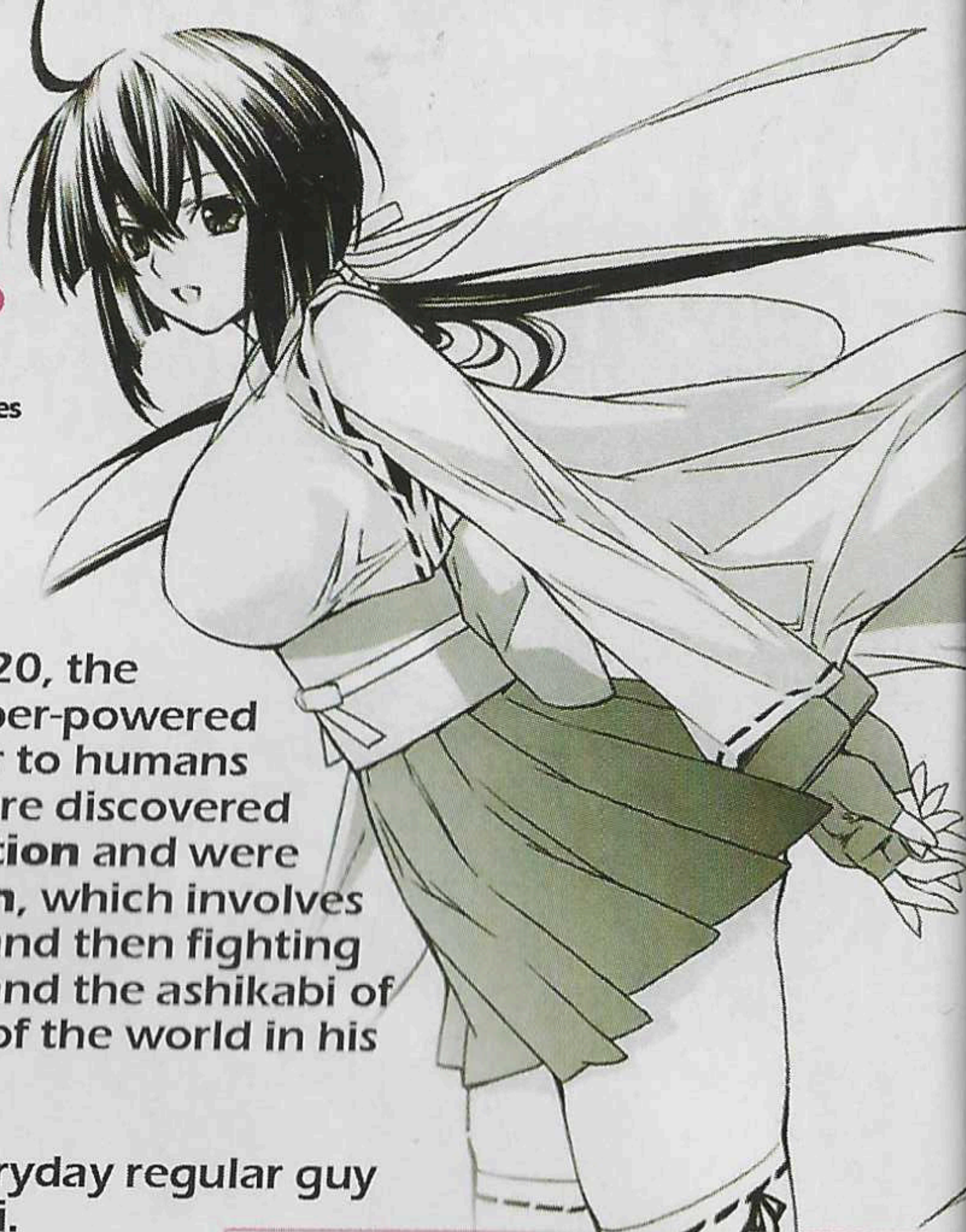
Among the ashikabi is your everyday regular guy Minato Sahashi.

On his way home after finding out that he failed the college entrance exams once again, Minato bumps into Musubi, a cute and cheerful girl who was being chased by two girls that can manipulate electricity. After taking Musubi to safety, she chooses him to be her ashikabi, thus officially making them a part of the Sekirei Plan.

Sekirei meaning 'wagtail' is a manga series by Sakurako Gakurakuin what started in Young Gangan. There has ben an anime adaptation with two seasons.

Now that they are playing a game that is much bigger than themselves, Minato and Musubi have no other choice but to fight for the world and their love.

So if you've been looking for a monthly fix of intense battles between beautiful belles, then best believe you'll have a blast with Sekirei.



## And The Magic Continues



ユーキューホルダー! by james

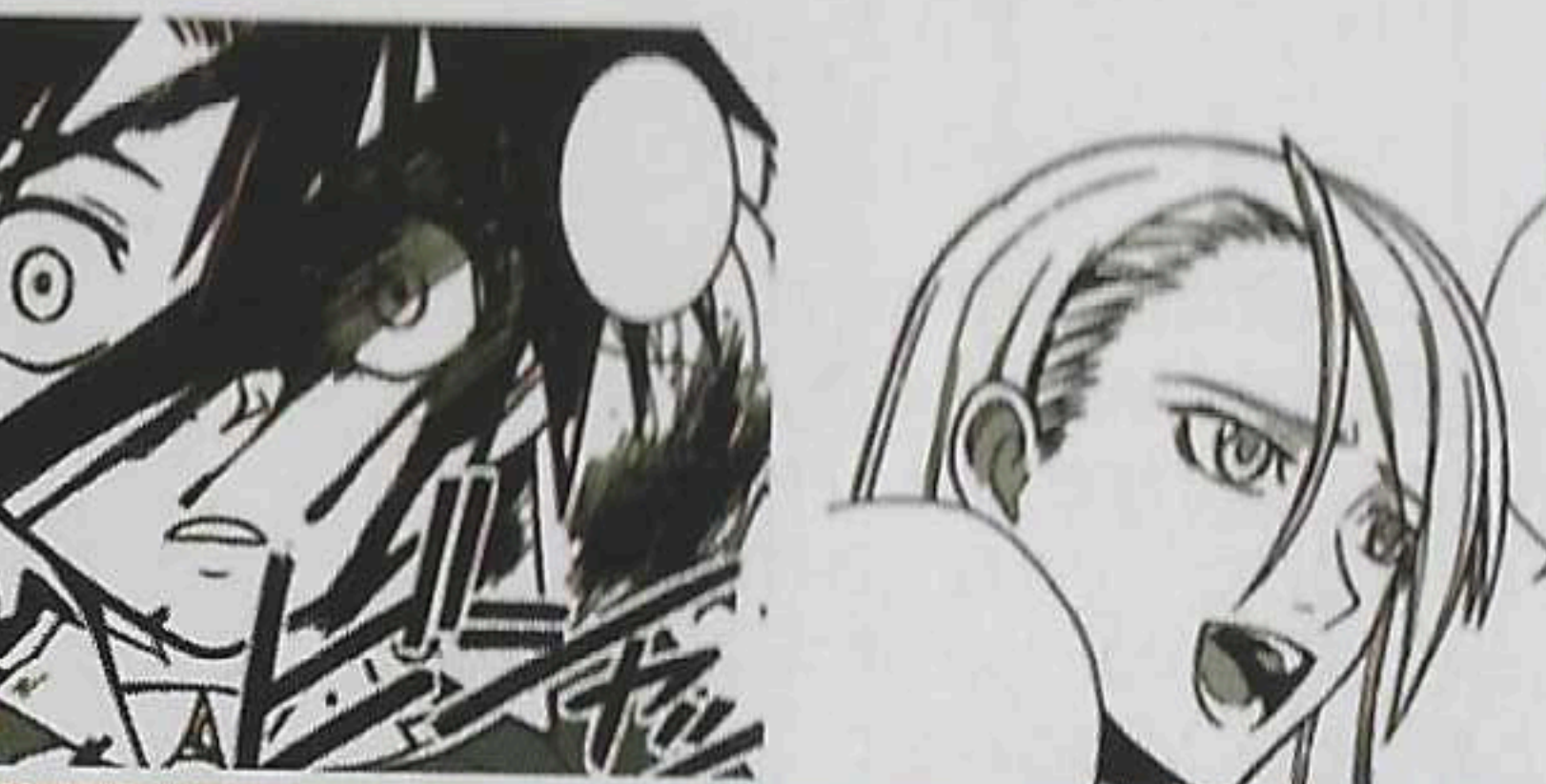
Life in the countryside may be peaceful and simple, but it can also be boring and uneventful. To change that, a little bit of magic might be in order. So, what kind of magic should we cast? Well, a little bit of courage should do the trick, for it is the real magic. And maybe we should throw in immortality and an epic adventure, just for safe measure. With all these things in the mix, you get UQ Holder.

Set in the year 2086, ten years since magic has been revealed to the world. Living in these wonderful times is Touta Konoe, an orphan who lives with his teacher Yukihiime. Touta dreams of leaving his hometown to discover what is atop the huge tower in the capital, but Yukihiime vehemently forbids him to do so unless he beats her in a fight. Unfortunately, Touta has never won against Yukihiime, not even once.

One day, Touta and Yukihiime got attacked by Mr. Tachibana, one of Yukihiime's fellow teachers, leaving Touta on the verge of death. Thankfully, Yukihiime used her magic and granted him immortality, allowing him to beat Mr. Tachibana. Yukihiime granted Touta's wish to leave town, but also revealed to him her true identity. Thus begins Touta's never-ending adventure in a brave new world full of wonders.



Another magical tale from mangaka Ken Akamatsu, expect a lot of shout-outs and recurring elements from his previous work Mahou Sensei Negima, as they share the same universe and timeline.



So if a lighthearted action-adventure manga is what you seek, then UQ Holder is definitely something you'll get hooked with.



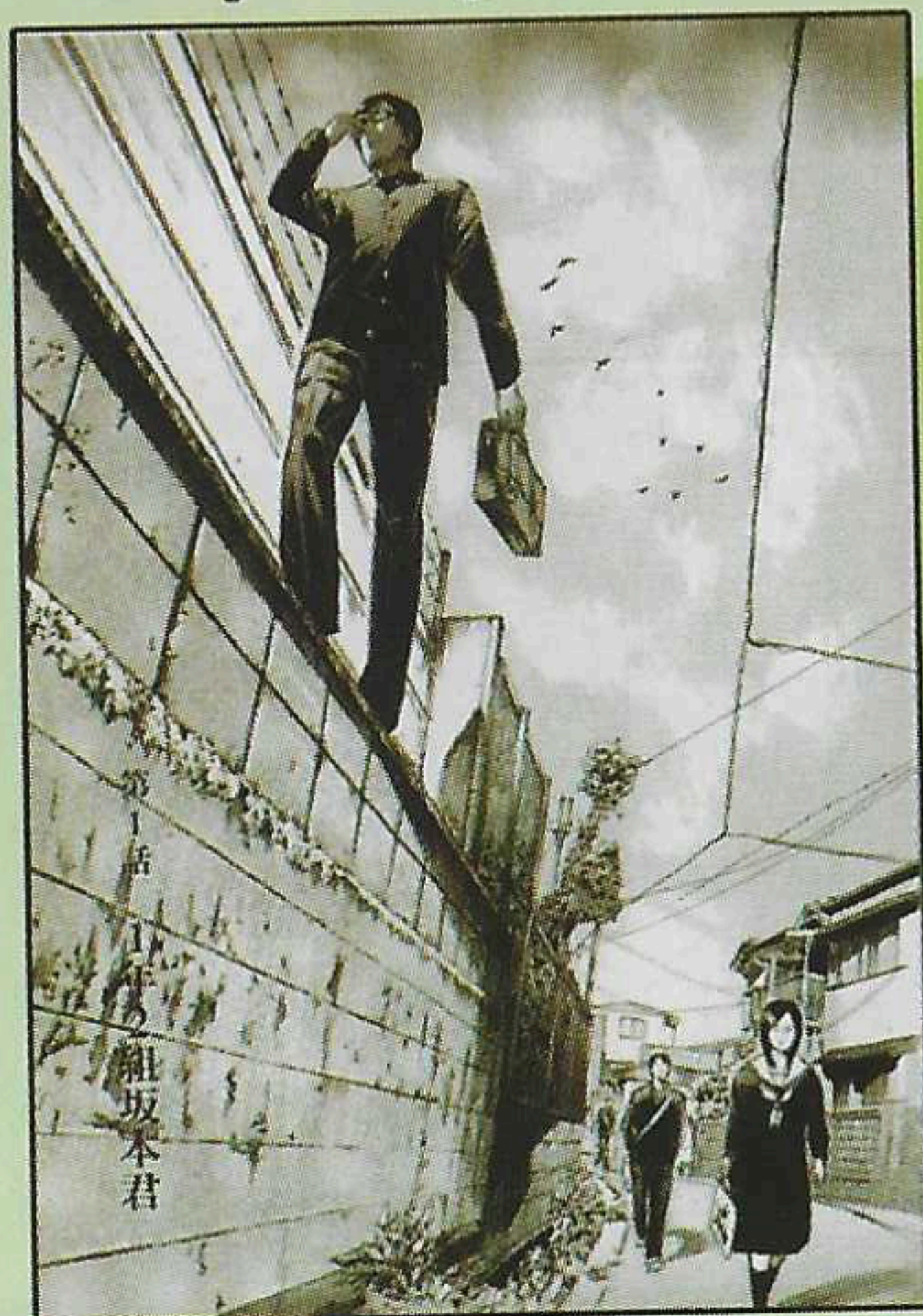


# Nobody is Perfect, Except Sakamoto

By Mikelle Abubo



The term 'perfect' is defined as having all the desirable qualities and characteristics that could be pertained to an absolute or complete being. A simpler definition could also be someone that is free from faults that serve as the ideal person that most people adore due to respect or resent due to envy, which is exactly how most people view the first-year-high school student Sakamoto.



In a particular high school, a certain freshman name **Sakamoto** is revered not just as cool, but as the "coolest" student to ever walk the halls of their school. Sakamoto's popularity skyrocketed immediately after the start of the school year and almost everyone's attention are gazed at him. All the girls love him while most of the boys are jealous of him. Tons of delinquents have plotted against him just to make him fall from grace, but to no avail, none has yet to succeed for Sakamoto always foils their plans with ease.

Sakamoto also has the knack of helping people indirectly, from the bullies to the most unpopular people in class, and he treats everyone as equals even though he himself is treated differently.

**Sakamoto desu ga?** is an ongoing slice of life manga written and drawn by **Nami Sano** and published by **Enterbrain**. The pilot chapter first made an appearance in **Enterbrain's Fellows!** magazine back in 2011 while the full serialization followed the year after and the publication still continues up to present. The manga's 1st volume won the **2013 Comic Natalie Grand Prize** and was also dubbed as one of the best selling manga since its debut. The 2nd volume of the manga also reached 1st place on the Oricon weekly manga chart.



**Sakamoto degu ga?** is definitely one manga that you should not miss. Filled with an unorthodox storyline and a weird sense of humor, this manga will either keep you amazed or laughing at the edge of your seat. Sakamoto is certainly one of the coolest and most badass protagonist that you will encounter in this sort of genre. Can Sakamoto remain untouchable through his entire high-school life? Follow Sakamoto as he lives his high-school life with grace and confidence.



# The Beautician and the Beast

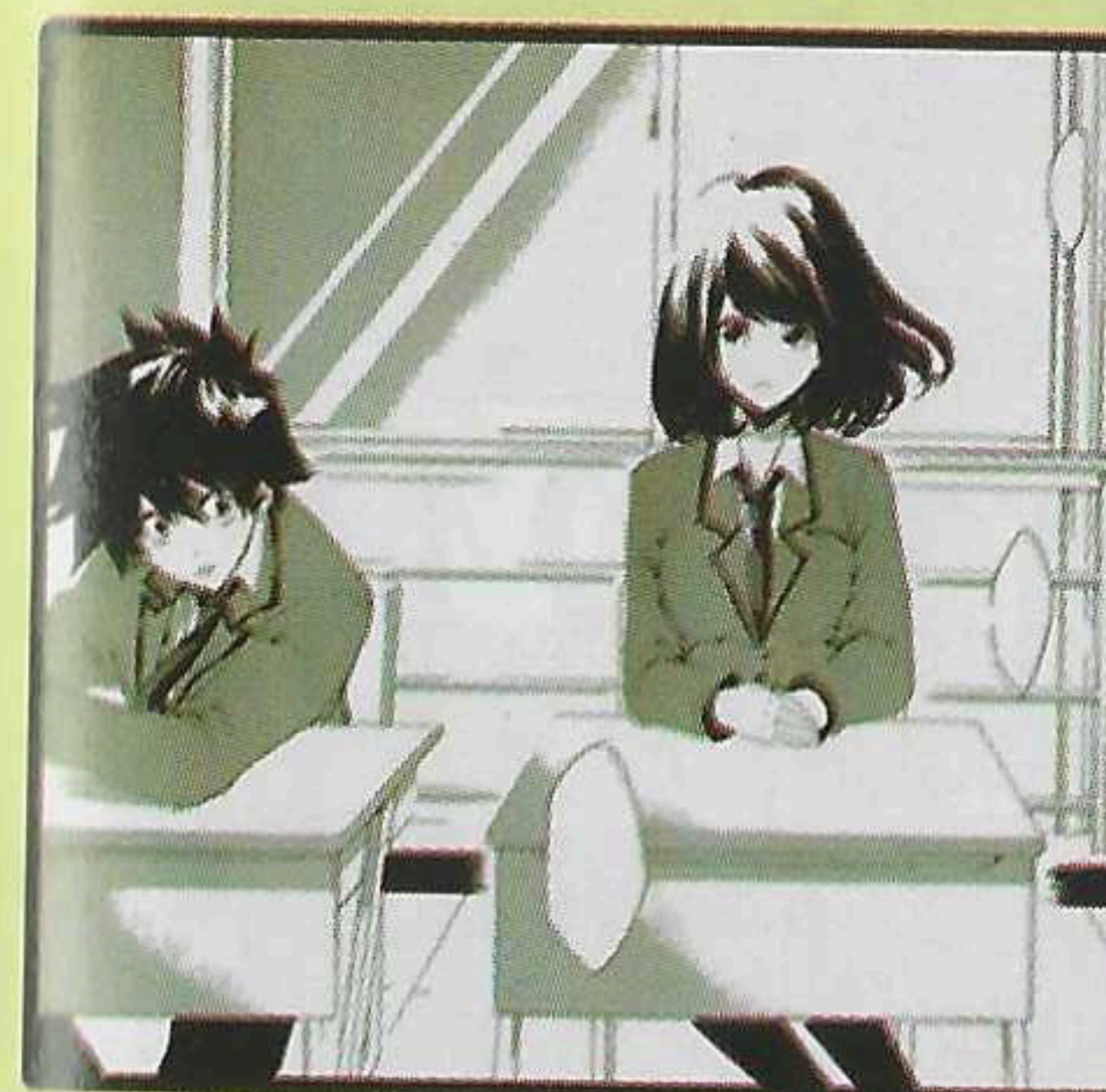
by: Mikelle Abubo

**Yumemino Private Academy** is a prestigious technical high school that is divided into many departments that develops students based on their technical skills. The school has produced many excellent achievers throughout the years and has continued to do so up till now. A new school year starts and many new promising students arrived at the academy, among them are a few individual that will take the whole school by surprise.



Driven by his childhood dream, **Kiriya Kyoutarou** aspires to become a professional hairstylist, and for that reason, he enrolled in **Yumemino's Beautician Department**. All is well and good until he realized that his seatmate is none other than **Samejima Alto**, an infamous female gang leader known for her brute strength.

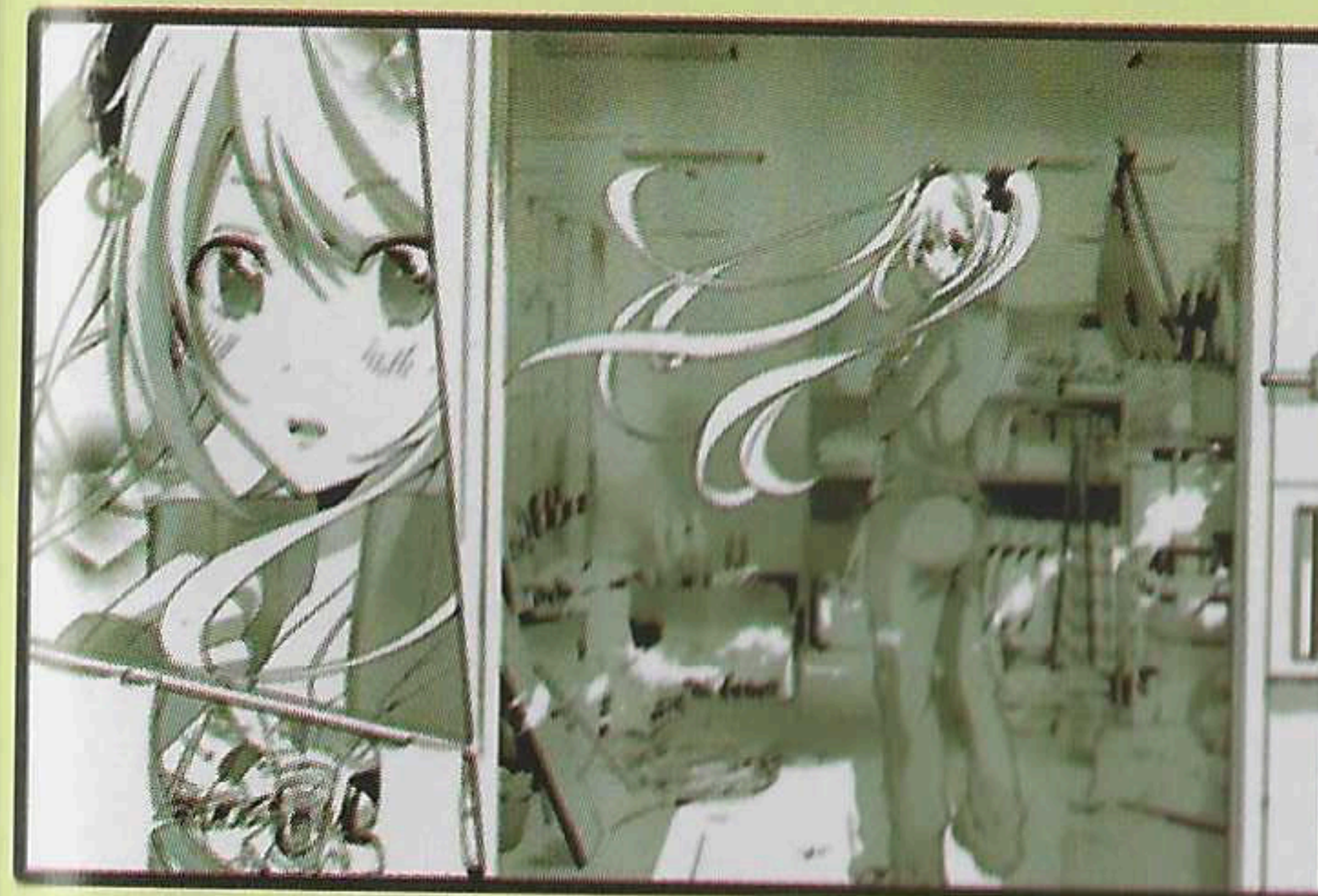
Kiriya decided to suck it up and focus on his dream, but one chance encounter at an empty storage room dragged him into a weird situation. Kiriya noticed a cute girl practicing alone inside the storage and due to some circumstances; he finds out that it's the delinquent Samejima Alto.



Prepared to take a beating, Kiriya resolves himself when Alto suddenly asked a strange request:

*"Can you turn me into an idol?"*

**Hime Doll!!** is a romance-comedy manga that is written and illustrated by **Kazuro Kyou**. Published and serialized in **Weekly Shounen Jump**. Hime Doll first started and debuted as a one-shot manga with the title of **Houkago Idol (After School Idol)** back in 2012 which received great response from many readers. Two full volume serialization followed a year after which was also received positively by many fans.



Hime Doll brings together two completely different individual with different origins. Kiriya a normal high school boy who dreams to be a hairstylist and Alto, a delinquent gang leader who works hard to become an idol. Along the way, they came to know many precious friends and face various challenges all the while keeping Alto's identity a secret.

Can they make their dreams come true? Or will they submit to the harshness of reality? Follow both protagonist as they develop their skill and their relationship(?) in Hime Doll!!





## COVER FEATURE

written by: Lizac 3.0



# WITCHES WORK HARD

## Witch Craft Works

Have you ever wanted to meet a witch? Both the mystery and the danger attached to their name are inevitable. A witch's reputation is automatically tainted just by performing witchcraft, especially when people don't know whether their objectives are good or bad. Additionally, the connotation of the word "witch" in the Philippines is often associated with black magic and love potions. However, while there are ill-intended witches, some witches do protect people. Let's delve into the world of Witch Craft Works and follow the story of Takamiya Honoka and his meeting with an invincible witch, unbeknownst to him, is the most popular girl in his school.

Takamiya Honoka knows he's an ordinary high school boy, so what are the odds that he's going to experience a supernatural phenomenon in an ordinary day? So far, his face has been squeezed in the school bus and his personal space invaded in the classroom because of Kagari Ayaka's fans.

Witch Craft Works is originally an on-going manga from 2011, written by Ryuu Mizunagi and published by Kodansha. This 2014, an anime adaptation is produced under J.C. Staff studio. Since both the anime and manga are still on-going, we can expect more happenings and action-packed fight scenes among witches.

Ayaka is the most beautiful and most intelligent student in their school. Her rabid fanboys and fangirls always meet up with her in the morning, during lunchtime, school duty, and class dismissal. Honoka has always been close in proximity to Ayaka. They are seatmates and have the same cleaning duty day, and that's why the fans club's everyday activities are inevitable for him. The two have never spoken to each other, though, despite how close they are all the time. It was Ayaka who first attempts to reach out to him by picking up the eraser he drops in class. Because of that incident, the poor boy has received some beating from Ayaka's fans.



Honoka somehow expected that treatment from her fans, but the unanticipated supernatural occurrence is when he falls victim into the hands of a Tower Witch whom he has no knowledge about. Imagine reading a paper with a weather report that read "buildings will fall today". And when you look up at the sky, the report indeed, did not lie. It was then that Ayaka's true intentions are slowly revealed while she protects the clueless Honoka.

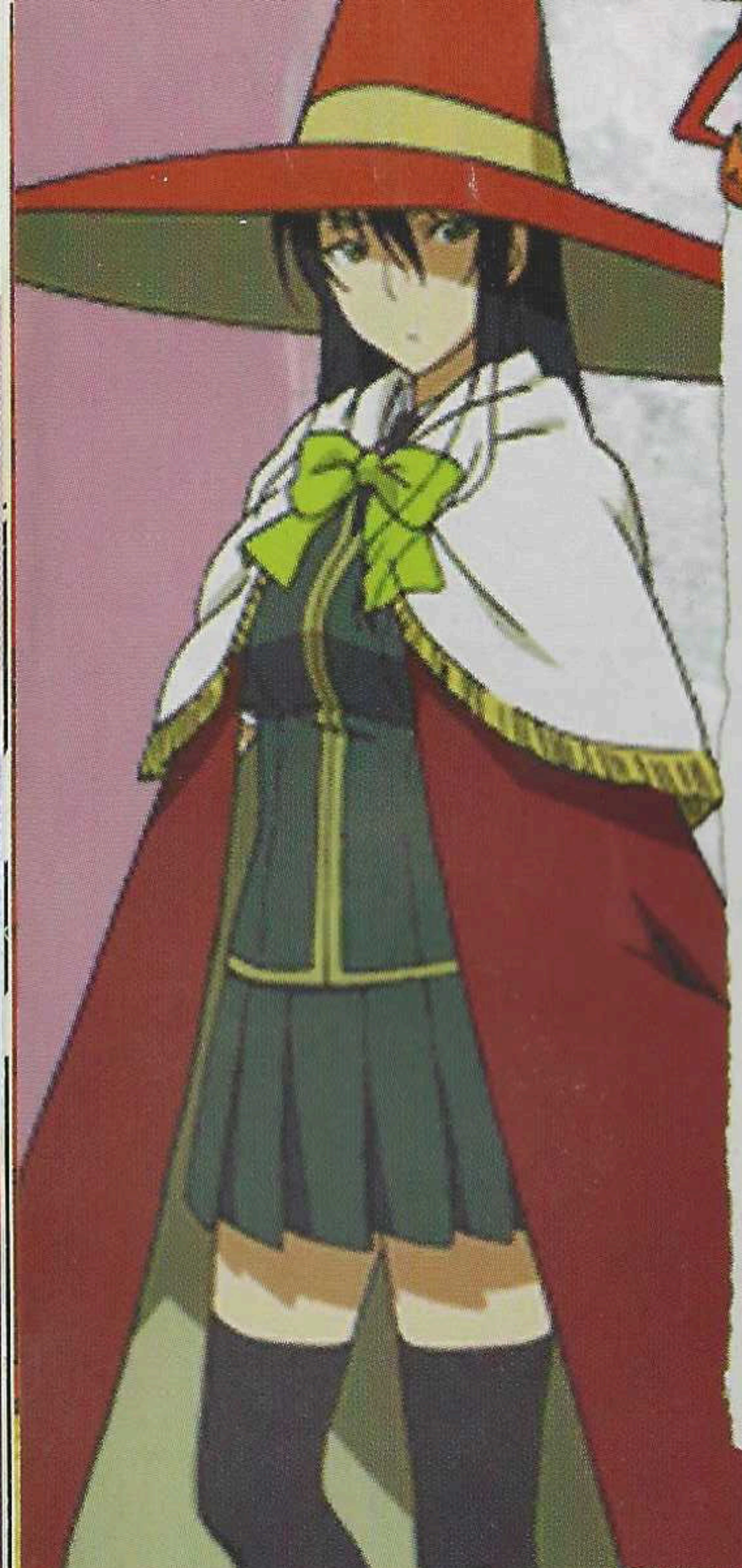


## CHARACTERS

### Takamiya Honoka – The commoner

Honoka is an average high school student who's been living an ordinary life, until his fate entangles with that of Kagari Ayaka, the school idol. When his life is threatened by a Tower Witch, he gets saved by Ayaka. He has been called "hime-sama" twice by Ayaka, which confuses him in great deal. Although Honoka looks frail for a guy, not to mention the fact that Ayaka is way taller than him, he is brave amidst frightening situations. He also has a very straightforward nature, not afraid of telling Ayaka to pull back from saving him countless of times. Nonetheless, his looks are average which irritates Ayaka's fans greatly. The commendable thing about Honoka is he's very considerate of other people's feelings, to the point of being heroic for them.





## Kagari Ayaka – The Fire Witch

Ayaka is seen as the most popular girl in their high school. Aside from being the daughter of the School Chairman, she has a strong sense of duty and her confidence never falters. Ayaka belongs to the Workshop Witches generally known as the witches belonging to the good side. She vowed to protect Honoka by any means, but had to do it undercover. This is also the reason why she's always close to Honoka in class and even in the school bus to keep a close eye on him. When the Tower Witches' desire for Honoka's capture lets loose, she protects him publicly, infuriating each and every one of her fans.

Ayaka is known for being the invincible Fire Witch, and her perfect control of Fire defeats anyone. No matter what kind of contingency plan her enemies make, they could not defeat her. Subtle hints may lead us to believe that Ayaka likes Honoka romantically, but it is difficult to tell at this point because they've just gotten to know each other. The only thing so far that connects them to each other is when Honoka is injured, it is Ayaka who feels the pain.

## Ivory Quintet

Kanna Utsugi, Kotetsu Kasura, Tanpopo Kuraishi, Mei Menowa, Rin Kazari

The Ivory Quintet is a group of Tower Witches who have been assigned to capture Honoka and kill Ayaka, but they fail miserably all the time. Just when they thought they have created the perfect plan, Ayaka burns them with her power.

Each of them has varying skills and abilities. Their acting leader, Tanpopo Kuraishi, was the first one who attempted to eradicate Honoka. Her powers include calling an army of robotic bunnies called "Hunters". These bunnies can do anything they've been told to do. Other members have interesting abilities as well, such as defensive barriers and multiple familiars. Despite their constant loss against Ayaka, their self-belief does not waver.



## Chronoire Schwarz VI – The Rival

She is a Tower Witch and the more powerful rival of Ayaka with a cool demeanor. She's not easily defeated because of her expertise in explosive magic. A long-time acquaintance of Kazane, Ayane's mother, she is believed to exist for over a hundred years now. Her knowledge of potions is exceptional, and has a strong potential of defeating Ayaka.

## Kazane Kagari – The Chairman

She is Ayaka's mother and the chairman of the school where Ayaka and Honoka study. Like Chronoire, her age is estimated to be around 140 to 150 years old. She is very accommodating to guests, as evident when Honoka came to visit her office. Despite her seemingly daunting attitude, she's has a kind personality. She's often seen staring at the scenery from her office.



## Kasumi Takamiya – The Sister

The pretty redhead Kasumi is Honoka's sister, who seems to have a brother complex even if she always seems to bully Honoka. Much to Honoka's surprise, Kasumi is a Workshop Witch who can manipulate colossal robots and dolls. Unlike their mother, Kasumi does not approve of Ayaka and Honoka's engagement, as she believes she won't be able to force her whims to her brother again.

## Komachi Takamiya – The Mother

Komachi is Honoka and Kasumi's cheerful and hospitable mother. Back in high school, she was very close to Kazane, and at some point the two of them wanted to get married. However, since it is not possible for them, they made an oath to engage their children instead. Komachi highly approves of Ayaka and Honoka to get married someday. Komachi is very supportive of their future relationship, but also respects their own discretion.





# WITCH CRAFT WEAPONS DO WORK OUT

## The Laughing Weapon

The anime has its fair share of humorous antics, particularly the solid group of Tower Witches wanting to eradicate Ayaka the Fire Witch. They've tried many times to attack her. However, they always end up getting caught in their own traps. The Tower Witches also expressed their desire to capture Honoka's body because "there's a white thing inside of him". This innuendo is hilariously presented in the anime, all the more when Honoka acknowledged its double meaning. The protagonist himself has funny reactions, and they're emphasized more whenever he's with Ayaka because they have exact opposite facial expressions. Honoka's aggressive sister and easygoing mother also add up to the humor of this series.

## The Annoying Weapon

There are many situations in this anime where you'll get annoyed for a reason. However, it should not be misinterpreted as the anime being generally a nuisance. The "annoying attack" in Witch Craft Works is a very important element in the story. In the first episode, the flock of girls forcing themselves upon Ayaka and their insensitivity when it comes to their surroundings, will definitely annoy almost anyone. We're all familiar with the fangirling culture, and sometimes it does go beyond the belt. It's a realistic representation of what is happening today in different fandoms. The bullies who are blinded by their love for their "Ojou-sama" are irritating as well. Do not be surprised by Ayaka's stoic face; we bet she's screaming internally every day because of how irrational some of her fans behave.

## The Drama Weapon

The dramatic component of this anime is primarily between Ayaka and Honoka; The invincible Fire Witch wanting to protect Honoka from Tower Witches, and Honoka also trying to protect Ayaka by doing things on his own. The drama weapon is effective in a way because it depicts an "against all odds" drama. It's almost as if they don't have their own families, and they only have each other. This drama weapon may actually lead to romance.

## The Action Weapon

Witch Craft Works requires fast-paced action, and J.C. staff has successfully fulfilled this part. The continuity of action in this anime is amazing and the flow of movements is quite smooth. Needless to say, the battles among witches and their showcase of abilities are something to look forward to.

## WORKSHOP WITCHES

The Workshop Witches set up patrolling points and watch over towns that might have bad witches in them.

They immediately take action against the evil-driven Tower Witches.

Workshop Witches work individually most of the time, but when they are called in for a meeting, it will be a one-time big-time event.

The advantage of being a Workshop Witch is practically siding with the good and protecting towns from evil witches.

The primary disadvantage is they cannot use magic all the time on ordinary citizens and they are also not compelled to protect people from their everyday troubles such as being mugged or bullied. Workshop Witches are also prone to being attacked by the Tower Witches.

# VS

## TOWER WITCHES

The goals of Tower Witches are unknown and the person they're working for is yet to be revealed. However, they are fuelled by selfish whims and that one mission to capture Honoka.

Tower Witches come in groups and collaboratively form strategies to fulfil their missions.

Tower Witches have a strong support group as they usually fight alongside their teammates.

The disadvantage of being a Workshop Witch is the continuous revision of their strategies for every Workshop Witch they encounter. Since Workshop Witches are much stronger because of Ayaka, they need to come up with several plans to achieve their mission.

### Objectives

### Method

### Advantages

### Disadvantages

Before the first quarter of 2014 ends, make sure you watch Witch Craft Works to see beautiful witches at work, showcasing their incredible powers. This anime offers playful yet profound narrative components in a Mahou series which you surely wouldn't want to miss.





## GAMER'S ARENA

written by: Ann

# THE Witch and the Hundred Knight

Published by NIS America, Inc., Nippon Ichi Software Inc.'s first 3D Action RPG The Witch and the Hundred Knight is set to be released for PlayStation 3 system on the 25th of this month in USA and on the 21st for Europe.

A century-long battle has waged between the Swamp Witch and the Forest Witch to find out who is more powerful, but everything changes when the Swamp Witch finds a trump card, the Hundred Knight. Will this knight deliver triumph to the hands of its master or will it remain a useless servant?

The player has to fulfill the Swamp Witch's ambitions of defeating her arch nemesis, the Forest Witch and turning the world into a great swamp wasteland. To accomplish the latter, the player must look for the hidden Pillars of Temperance and make them bloom so that the area turns into a swamp and gives the Swamp Witch more power. However, the difficulty lies in battling against the guardians protecting the pillars, and the Witch Soldiers wandering in the forest.

In the beginning of the player's journey, he must look after his Giga Calories (Gcals), the Hundred Knight's hunger level; as it will drop the longer he is away from Metallia. If it drops to zero, the player will be forced to go back home. Still, the player can increase its Gcals by consuming a weakened opponent.

### Metallia The Swamp Witch

Noted as Witch Master by some, Metallia is the genius witch who swears to destroy the Forest Witch and cover the world with swamps. She is the Hundred Knight's master but even he has yet to discover the extent of her power that makes the other witches avoid her.

Alongside this main quest are the little tasks that the player must perform for his master. Some of these tasks include helping out tribes and forming allegiance with them, or raiding completely for the Swamp Witch's domination. It will also include the yearly Walpurgis Nighttime Soiree of the Great Witches of Medea.

The Hundred Knight uses Tactical Conversion which enables it to have up to five weapons simultaneously and use them together to get a maximum 5-hit combo. Weapons available are sword, hammer, staff, lance and spear.

### The Hundred Knight

Summoned by the Swamp Witch, the Hundred Knight is the player mode whose legendary powers can be enabled in a variety of ways. One of these is its shifting facets that specialize in different tactics such as the Power Fortress, the Trick Screamer, and the Shinobi Assassin. Its normal facet is the Wonder Knight. As for its name, the Hundred Knight can enable the power of 99 more knights with is Tochka. It can summon Tochka allies that have powers ranging from bomb-type to arrow-type, and trap-type to fortress-type.

### Malia The Forest Witch

Battling against the Swamp Witch is the Great Witch who keeps the Wudes forest free from the toxic fumes of Metallia's swamp.

The player must also be wary of the attack elements he and his opponents possess because it will determine their strengths and weaknesses. These attack elements are Slash, Blunt and Magic.

Using sub actions like Mystical Dodge to slow time and become invincible in battle, and Extra Chain to attack opponents rapidly, the player can inflict greater damage. He can also unleash the Hundred Knight's secret ability, Chaos Revelation to accelerate consumption of Gcals against enemies.

Set in the fantasy world of Medea, the game begins in the Swamp Witch's house on the Niblhenné Swamp where the player as the Hundred Knight serves the Swamp Witch as its master.

There's definitely more to look forward to in this game. Watch out not only for 3D action but also plot twists that will change your view of good and evil.



# DRAMATICAL MURDER

written by: Levin

## A Love for Boys' Love

If you were given the ability to make other people do what you want, would you use it? Our protagonist would. And in his case, it's in his job description, and all he has to do is drop his voice to a certain inflection.

**Dramatical Murder**, styled as **DRAMAtical Murder**, is a Japanese yaoi game developed and published by Nitro+chiral. It was released on March 23, 2012 as a first press edition, and a regular edition was released on April 27, 2012.

Mankind and nature once coexisted in an island called Midorijima located to the southwest of the Japanese islands. However, the Tōe Company—a powerful corporation in Japan—purchased the island, and eventually converting one-third of it into a high-rolling amusement facility they called "Platinum Jail."

Powered by cutting-edge technology, Platinum Jail inevitably gathered attention. On the contrary, people who became victims of the forceful development are forced to live their lives in the "Former Residents' District," a place which is by no means prosperous.

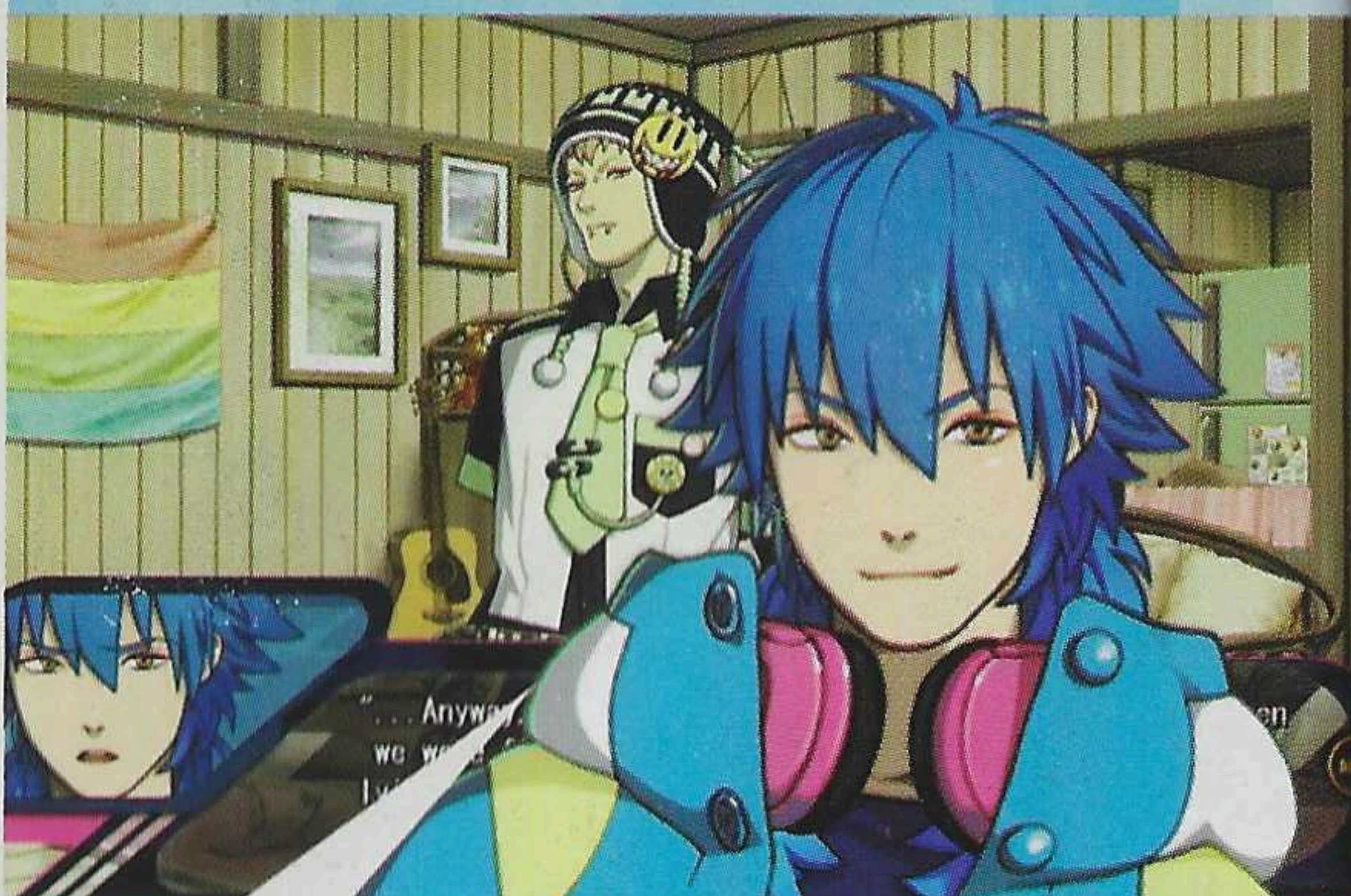
The story takes place in the future where the game called "Rhyme," a virtual fighting game, is very popular. People also possess convenient AI computers they call "All Mates."

## Aoba Seragaki

Aoba Seragaki, the game's protagonist, leads an ordinary life with his grandmother, Tae, while working as a part-timer at a junk shop named "Heibon." Unlike his friends, Aoba shows no interest in "Rhyme," as he just wants to live peacefully with his grandmother. However, a disaster is bound to turn those peaceful days upside-down.



With different endings for each character, **DRAMAtical Murder** can be enjoyed over and over again. So if you are a fan of BL games, then this is one game you can't afford to miss out on! This game may contain adult content, but nothing screams "boys' love" louder than four attractive boys all falling for the same guy.



## NOIZ

Noiz is the leader of the group called "Ruff Rabbit." Noiz is from a wealthy family in Germany, living with his mother, father, and a younger brother. As a child, Noiz was impatient and unintentionally violent, though this was attributed to his lack of sense of feeling. For years, he lived alone in his own little house, isolated from everybody. And since then, he felt used to being alone.

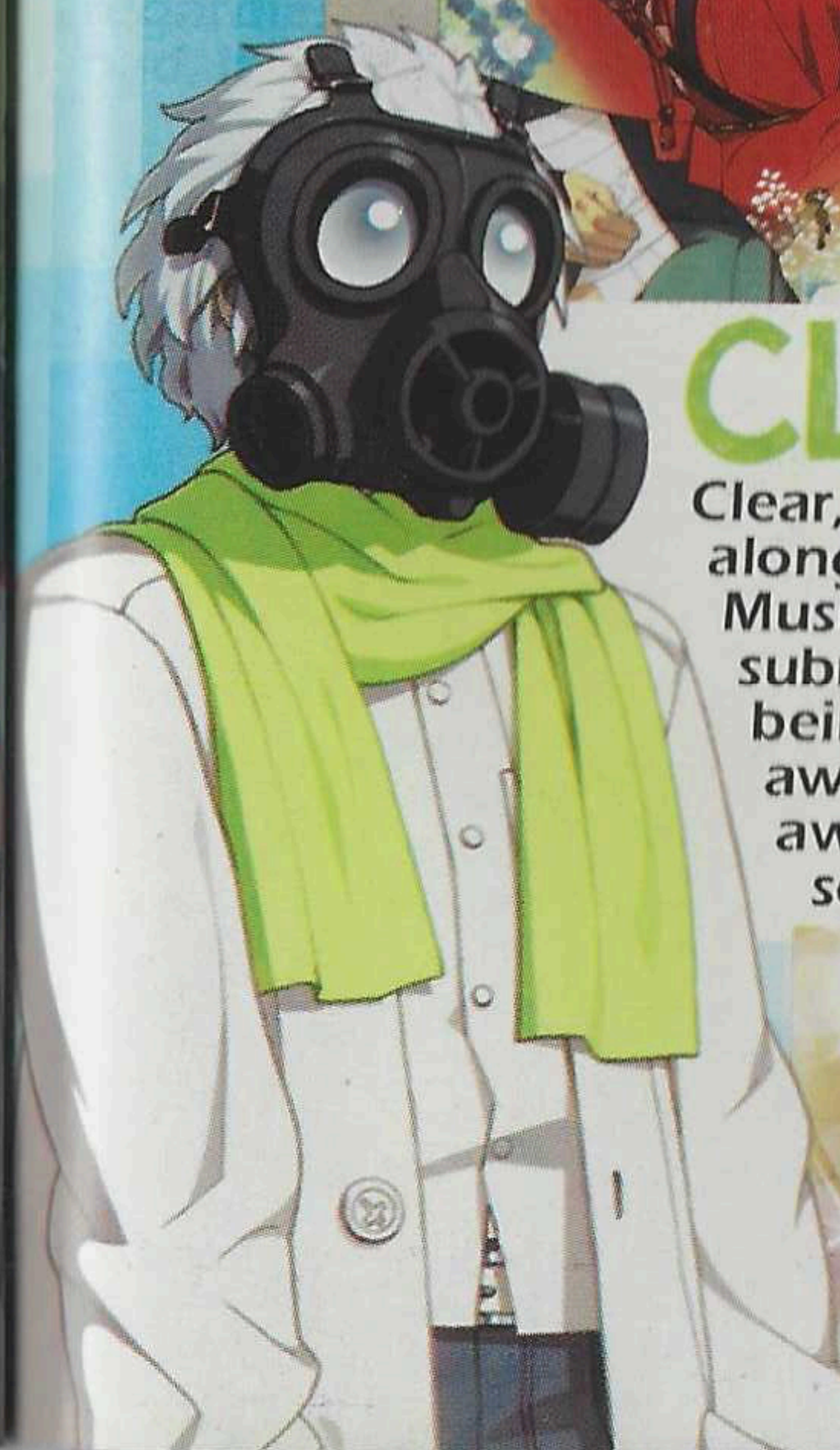
## KOUJAKU

Koujaku, leader of the team "Benishigure," is Aoba's childhood friend, even though they didn't spend a lot of time together. They first met when Aoba was being picked on for looking feminine and having long hair, to which Koujaku immediately came to his defense. The two eventually formed a bond, but Koujaku, along with his mother, soon left Midorijima, upsetting Aoba in the process.



## CLEAR

Clear, before the main events of the game, served under Tōe along with his brothers. They were all designed to sing "Dye Music," a song that brainwashes people's minds into submission, literally "dyeing" their brains. He ended up being a defective unit, and was ordered to be disposed away. But the man in charge of the disposal took Clear away instead, kept it a secret and raised Clear as his own son until his death.







GAMER'S ARENA

# SOUND OF SILENCE

Sound of Silence is a new game, set to debut in early 2014, that will bring back the "real horror gaming" everyone has long been waiting for. The psychological game, which is not bent on "jumpscare" seen mostly on every horror game out there, will adapt the player's actions to analyze their fears, bringing a much scarier atmosphere as you progress through the game. Assume you prefer walking through lighted areas, the game may recognize your fear of darkness, resulting to more pitch black places being present.

Made by PathFinder Games team lead by Michael Chiniquy using Unity 3D and After Effects. A demonstration video showed a player waking up on an empty road. Sees a house with blood stains on the floor and enters.

The game takes a step towards the traditional horror games, particularly the kinds that make you want to hesitate to open a door in fears of what might be beyond it. Sound of Silence, though, is still under production, but with its impressive concept, we can all eagerly wait for something this interesting.







# 魔法戦争

## MAGICAL WARFARE

In the past, there used to only be one world filled with entropy and strife. A time ravaged by a war between magicians which caused permanent damage to the world, a war of attrition between the Ghost Trailers and the coalition that took arms and sought to stop their plans. At one point, the Trailer's leader attempted to erase all humans with the use of a grand spell called Last Requiem, but to his demise, it was prevented by 15 magicians by combining their powers which caused the world to split into two: the Living World and the Ruined World.

Flash forward to present, the story now focuses around a group of high school students that were living their normal lives until their encounter with a certain group of people put a halt to their normal days. Due to some circumstances, Nanase Takeshi and his friends have been turned into magicians and was dragged into a war that they did not sign up for. Will they be able to survive the harshness of the Ruined World, or will they take hold of their new found powers and survive?

### AIBA MUI

Mui is one of the female protagonists of the series. She is the one responsible for turning Takeshi into a magician when she accidentally shot a magical gun at him. Mui has been desperately trying to bring her brother back who was brainwashed by a group called Trailers.

Mui's Aspect is a gun named "Arthur" that shot magical bullets and is also a perfect combination with her acceleration magic.

### ISOSHIMA KURUMI

Kurumi is Takeshi's childhood friend and also one of the series' female protagonists. Due to a traumatic experience in the past, she formed a fake relationship with Takeshi in order to protect her.

After the incident at their high school, she was also turned into a magician and acquired transformation magic, her lipstick serves as her Aspect.

### NANASE TAKASHI

Takeshi is the series' male protagonist who was unknowingly dragged into the world of magicians. He used to be a normal high school student and a talented kendo practitioner. Takeshi has a dark past which caused him to have a cold relationship with his family.

After being turned into a magician, Takeshi gained an ancient evasive magic that enable him to predict enemies movements that puts him on par with experienced mages. He also acquired a magical sword called "Twilight" by the previous owner which served as his Aspect and gave him a tremendous boost in strength.

The anime adaptation was positively received by fans specially those that have read the manga and light novel prior to the anime's premiere. Brimming with fluid animations, great character designs and a carefully thought out storyline, Mahou Sensou is definitely one of the hottest anime that was released during the season. To add fuel to the fire, the anime's opening theme "Senkou no Prisoner" is performed by Yuuka Nanri and the ending theme "Born to be" by Nano.





# Conquer the World before Bedtime

by: Mikelle Abubo

## What does it take to conquer the world?

Genghis Khan, Alexander the Great, Augustus Caesar and Tamerlane are some of the world's greatest conquerors whose names have been engraved in the history of mankind. They possessed the potential of making the world prostrate before their intimidating presence as they commanded some of the history's mightiest armies. Not only do they excel as individuals but they are also served by their vassals and loyal followers out of respect and fear.

Conquerors possess everything needed to walk the path of world domination, however, what they envisioned were nothing more than a mere delusion. World conquest is an accomplishment that has never been achieved, not until one little girl named Kate Hoshimiya came up to the challenge.

**Sekai Seifuku**: Bouryaku no Zvezda revolves around **Hoshimiya Kate**, born to be a conqueror, and **Jimon Asuta**, a high school student who ran away from home. One destined encounter tied their fate together when Asuta reluctantly joined Kate's secret society called **Zvezda** whose main objective is world domination. Followed by her subordinates, Kate plots to conquer the world and will eliminate all that stands in her way until she basks in the glory of world conquest.



**Sekai Seifuku** is a 13-episode anime produced by **A-1 Pictures** and directed by **Tensai Okamura**. The series' original story was written by **Okamura** and **Meteor Hoshizora** from **Type-Moon**. The anime started airing in January 2014 while three manga adaptations for the series followed shortly at the

same month. The opening theme "**Be Mine!**" is performed by none other than **Maaya Sakamoto** and the ending theme "**VisuMania**" is performed by **Aoi Yuki**.

Bringing all sorts of archetypes in the mix, **Sekai Seifuku** is one show you should not miss. Adding a mixture of the occult, weird technologies and strange creatures to bring about a unique show that would leave you clueless until you get unexpectedly hit by the punch line. Follow **Asuta** as he is dragged by **Kate** as they attempt to conquer and subdue the world and all who lives in it. The **Zvezda** plot will commence and failure is not an option!

"If you swear fealty to me, I shall share my snacks and the world with you." -Hoshimiya Kate



# Solving Problems, One Form at a Time

by: John Robert Lim



Have you ever found yourself wishing to be someone else? Maybe you could try praying for the power to transform. Who are we kidding? There's no way the gods are crazy enough to grant an outrageous wish such as that.

Yet, that's exactly what happens in **Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha**!

**Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha** is about **Fushimi Inari**, a cheerful girl in Kyoto with some confidence issues. After getting caught in an embarrassing situation with **Tanbabachi**, the boy she had a crush on, she desperately tried to make up with him to no avail. Concluding that her way out of this predicament was to become **Sumizome**, the girl **Tanbabachi** likes, she prayed for the gods' help. To her surprise, she was answered by the deity **Uka-no-Mitama-no-Kami**. In order to thank her for saving a fox pup, **Uka-sama** transformed her appearance into **Sumizome**.

Predictably, mayhem ensued, and **Inari** ended up regretting her wish. Instead of changing her back to her original form, **Uka-sama** had a better alternative – **giving her the ability to transform into any human**. Not only that, but the deity gave her a cute fox familiar to boot. Now, what other misadventures await her in this new life?



**Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha** is a 10-episode anime series produced by **Production IMS**, the team responsible for bringing us **Fantasia Doll** and **Mushibugyou**. The show was adapted from **Morohe Yoshida's** seinen manga of the same title that began its serialization on August 2010 on **Young Ace** magazine and is still ongoing up to present. **May'n** provides the theme song "**Kyou ni Koiro**", which fits the overall feel of the show.

There are a lot of supernatural romance stories in anime, but **Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha** takes it to the next level. The show did a great job of bringing the mysticism of Japanese culture to life. The art is superb, showcasing the beautiful scenery of Kyoto's city and shrines. It also does a nice mixture of comedy and drama in its narration. The pacing is enjoyable too, as you'll never get bored of following **Inari** and her misadventures with her new powers.

Thanks to the characters, setting, and general ambiance, this series can truly be summed up as a cute and charming journey into Japan. This is a show you should not miss.





# Between the Weeds and the Blossoms

by james



Our abilities have a great effect on our success. However, they do not define a person's true worth and happiness. While that may be true, it is undeniable that our society greatly looks at them with such scrutiny that it is almost as if it does. That is very much true in our world as well as in the world where siblings Tatsuya and Miyuki exist - the world of **Mahouka Koukou No Rettousei**.



Translated as "**The Poor-performing Student of a Magical High School**", the story is set in the year **2095**, a time when magic has finally been recognized as a systematized body of knowledge that is governed by science and technology, and the harnessing of it is dependent on the ability of each person. There are those who cannot control magic and those who can, and they are aptly called magicians.

**Shiba Tatsuya** and **Miyuki** are siblings who are both magicians that are enrolled in **First National High School**. And in their school, students are divided according to their performance when it comes to the practical application of magic. Those who fare well, called "**Blossoms**", are prioritized, while those who do not fall as reserve students and are labeled as "**Weeds**". Because of this, Blossoms look down and discriminate Weeds.



Among the two, **Miyuki is the Bloom**: more talented in the practical application of magic; **Tatsuya**, on the other hand, despite acing the entrance tests, is considered to be a **Weed** because of what the school deems as poor practical application of magic. With such a hostile environment against Weeds, will the closeness between Tatsuya and Miyuki be affected? That may be an important problem for our protagonists, but behind everything is a much more sinister plot that will reveal Tatsuya's true and fearsome power.

Animated by **Madhouse**, expect stunningly vivid animation and beautifully drawn characters. And there is more to this anime than mere eye candy, as it deconstructs the usual "magical school" subgenre, showing how a magical school would've turned out if magic is more closely related to a branch of science rather than being actually magic. Aside from that, it also shows how our society would turn out if magic actually existed through the use of its very diverse cast of characters.



**Mahouka Koukou no Rettousei** is easily and definitely one of the best and most memorable anime titles this season. Expect a lot of awesome magic and an equally awesome and deep plot.

# HITSUGIME NO CHAIKA



We all have a purpose in life, and that purpose gives our lives meaning. But what if that purpose has already been fulfilled? What will life mean now? What's next? Well, you can always find a new purpose, a new meaning, a new reason to keep on living. Who knows? It might just be around the corner. Try asking Toru, a man who found a new direction in life when he found a pretty girl lost in the woods. Follow where his new life is headed to in **Hitsugime no Chaika**.

Based on a light novel of the same name by **Sakaki Ichirou**, **Hitsugime no Chaika** is set in the year **1604**, when the 150-year long war has ended with the downfall of the **Gazu Empire**. The six main countries that conquered it have divided and ruled over the empire, and then finally signed a peace treaty, marking an end to the war. Living during these tranquil times is **Toru Acura**, a 20-year old retired soldier who lives with his sister **Akari**. Because of reasons still unknown, Toru refuses to work, adding that he will lose if he does so.

One day, on one of his strolls in the forest to gather food, he finds a beautiful girl carrying a coffin on her back. Her name is **Chaika**, a wizard, looking for the way north. Then suddenly, out of nowhere and without warning, they were attacked by a unicorn. Thankfully, because of Toru's prowess in battle and Chaika's powerful magic, they were able to slay the beast. After that, Chaika paid her debt with Toru, and the two of them parted ways. But their destinies are intertwined, and so they meet once again when Chaika asks Toru's guild specifically for his services...

What sets this anime apart from other anime titles is its medieval high fantasy setting. With a solid backstory and rich in-universe magic and mythology, it truly immerses the audience into its rich and enchanting world that is just so visually beautiful - nothing less from the animation **BONES**. And not only is its setting beautiful, but also its characters, both aesthetically and personality-wise, as they are very much genuine with their thoughts, actions, and emotions, making the viewers relate and care for them.

With a mysterious and mystical realm, cool yet relatable characters, and a lot of heart, **Hitsugime no Chaika** is an anime that will let you in its world and stay in yours.



# Go! Go! 575



Lyrical Poem or known as a Song has been entertaining and touching the world's heart with its tunes and heartfelt expression of words uttering in every lines. Creating songs to cheer everyone up, serenading your love and even food. What if a Tanka or a Haiku poem can be turned into a song? What will Maccha and Azuki do to create a song out of a 5-7-5 syllable meter found in Tanka and Haiku?



**Azuki Masaoka** and **Maccha Kobayashi** are high school girls who have the polar opposite personalities. Azuki is a happy go lucky, wild girl who is afraid of kites while Maccha is a calm girl who likes peacefulness and is afraid of the pond. One day, Azuki got an idea to create a **5-7-5 poem** and make it into a song. How will Azuki and Maccha create these ideas of 5-7-5 songs? Will they be able to inspire other with this format?

**Go! Go! 575** is a comedy, slice of life, anime directed by **Takefumi Anzai** and written by **Keigo Koyanagi**. It has 4 total episodes with 3 minutes duration per episode. It is also produced by **Sega**, **Half H.P Studio**, **C2C**, and **Lay-duce**. Azuki Masaoka is voiced by **Yuka Ootsubo** (Haiyore! Nyaruko-san, Pretty Rhythm: Dear my Future), Maccha Kobayashi is voiced by **Ayaka Ohashi** (Aikatsu, Eureka Seven AO) and Yuzu Yosano is voiced by **Kotobuki Minako** (Aikatsu, Baby Steps).

"Go! Go! 575" tells the story about two girls (later joined by a third) who want to sing songs based on haiku and tanka poems, and share them with the world. As part of their promotion campaign of "Go! Go! 575", Sega decided to create a mini-anime based on said title. With a fairly small budget, they managed to release 4 episodes, each lasting 3 minutes. It's been built on to produce a decent music (idol-like) anime. The characters were fun and quite enjoyable, and memorable if they had more screen time to work with. Hence, even the third character would've been far more fun to see because of her Yuri fan girl in terms of personality. Even the art style and music were pretty great, even if the entire anime was only meant to promote the game.

Create a world full of songs out of tanka and haiku poems. Join in the Azuki and Maccha and watch Go! Go! 575

# SOUL EATER

written by James  
requested by Maka Duran

School usually means sitting down for long hours pretending to listen to the teacher in front as he or she bores you half to death, studying alien concepts until your brain bleeds, doing unnecessary homework when you could just be watching anime or playing video games, and then scratching your head until you go bald during exams. What a drag, right? Well, what if your course syllabus included slaying evil abominations, being partners with people that can turn to weapons, and having them eat souls so that they can gain greater power? Ladies and gentlemen, enter Soul Eater.

Set in a world where evil people can become evil soul-devouring demons called kishin, the god of death himself Shinigami founded the Death Weapon Masters Academy in order to train weapon masters, exceptionally talented fighters who wield demon weapons, people that turn into weapons, in order to prevent such a thing from happening. Aside from that, through the training of the weapon masters, the school also aims to have the demon weapons eat ninety-nine evil human souls and one witch soul to become a Death Scythe, powerful weapons worthy of being used by Shinigami himself.

The story revolves around three teams: the very driven **Maka Albarn** and her headstrong partner **Soul**; the not-so-stealthy yet formidable **Black Star** and his kunoichi weapon **Tsubaki**; and the obsessive-compulsive son of Shinigami **Death the Kid** and his twin pistols—the childishly optimistic **Patty Thompson** and the cynically serious **Liz Thompson**. Together, they set to slay evil humans and witches and become full-fledged weapon masters and demon weapons.

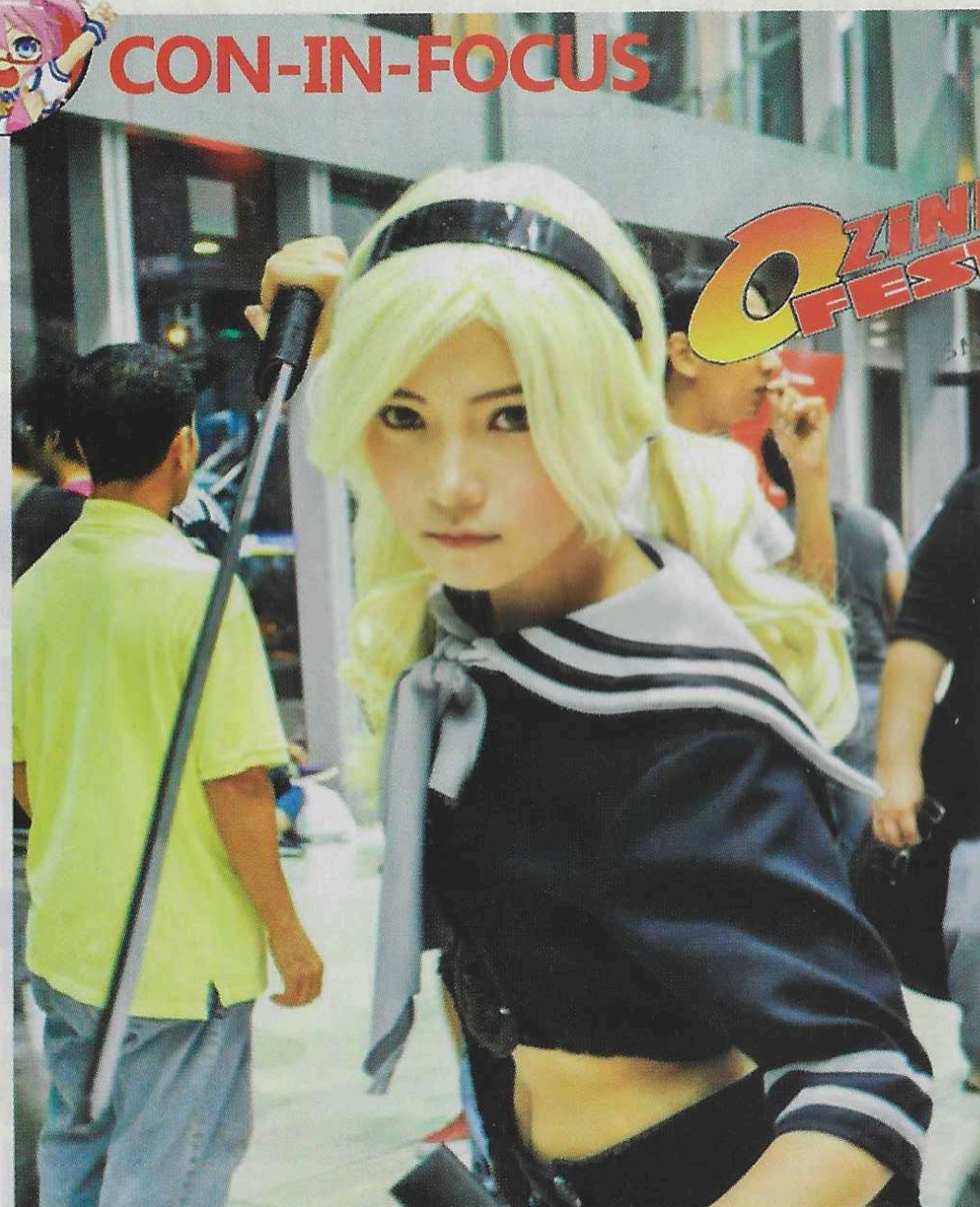
With a simple yet enjoyable plot rife with crazy antics and fast-paced action, art that is stylistic, surreal, and warmly vivid, and characters with diverse and dynamic personalities, Soul Eater is definitely one of those delicious anime titles that will get your heart racing, your jaw dropping, and your stomach hurting. Bon appétit!







## CON-IN-FOCUS



**OZINE FEST 2014**  
APRIL 25, 26 AND 27, 2014  
SMX CONVENTION CENTER MOA

Long lines, Mean guards, summer heat and over the top security.

Convention problems can't stop the anime fans from coming. We who have been waiting for a huge event this year looked forward to the one event in the PH everyone wants to go to.

And it came at the right time.

Ozine Fest 2014 was a great success for otakus and cosplayers alike. Held at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia, Pasay city on April 25, 26 and 27.

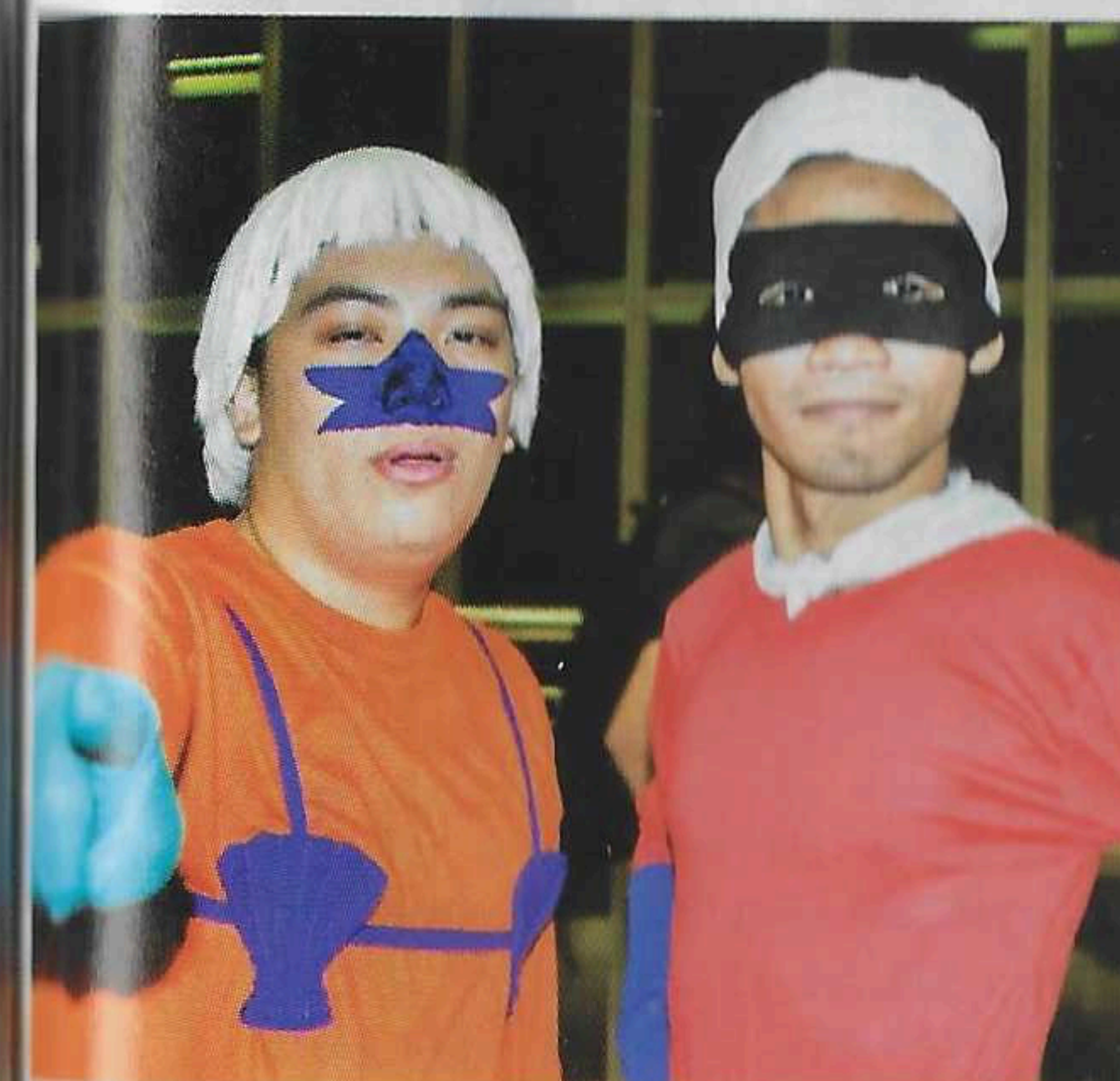
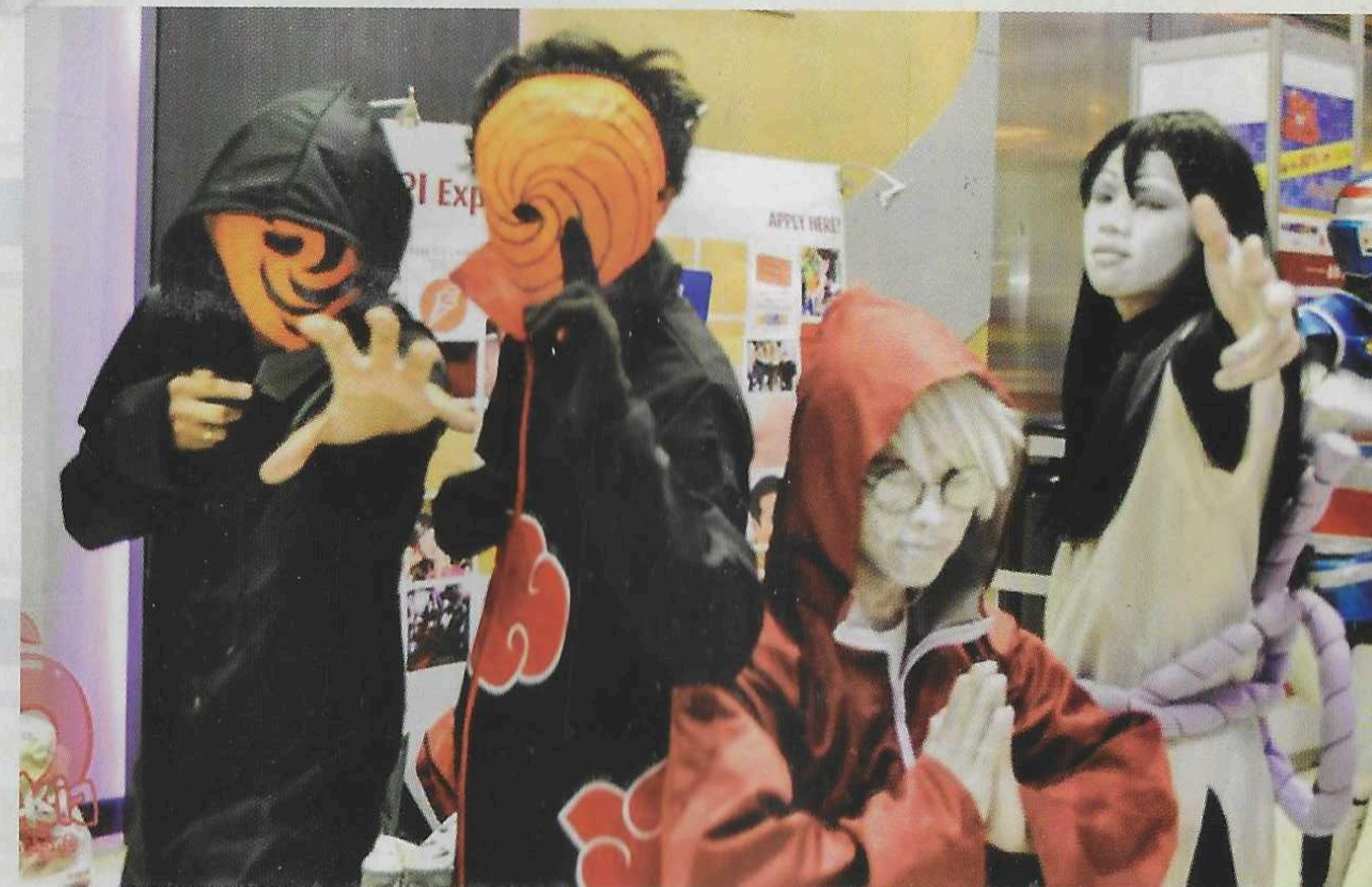
The invited guests are Ying Tze, Yanbul, Jdoll, Aza Miyuko, Yazı and Misa. Sadly for the fans, Misa and her partner Yazı didn't make it to the Ozine Fest. Misa had her passport confiscated on Hong Kong and it will take two weeks to retrieve it from the authorities. The other guests, Aza, Yanbul and Jdoll or also known as the D.A.Y cosplayed as Ryuko, Satsuki and Mako from Kill la Kill while Ying Tze cosplayed Junko Enoshima from Dangan Ronpa.

There were a number of events at the con. To name a few; the karaoke contest, eating contest, maid cafe, battle of the bands, art contest, console games and the new trading card game, Vanguard. Animax showed us their upcoming anime shows for May and June. While the other sponsors gave merchandise for the auction.

Though the individual cosplay competition is not scheduled on the first and second day of the convention, the we observed that more people came than last year.

The line for the entrance to Ozine Fest already started as early as 8:00 am and most of the guests are cosplayers. There were several security issues that went viral after the event.

Ozine Fest or Otakuzine Festival is held two times a year which is usually observed during the first quarter and last quarter of the year. Check [www.ozine-events.com](http://www.ozine-events.com) for more updates and upcoming events.







## REQUEST

written by James

# YUUTO SURVIVAL

They say opposites attract. Black and white, north and south, hot and cold – you know the drift. Of course, it's not always the case, especially if it's between the rich and the not-so-rich. And for Hirasawa Asako and Kazuki Sakuri, it probably never will be. Or maybe someday, through genuine it hopefully will.

The manga is about Hirasawa Asako, a girl who loves reading advertisement leaflets in order to help her parents discover cheaper deals. One day, she mentioned her passion to an affluent friend of hers, but that friend told her that more expensive things have higher quality, and even added that Asako must be really poor because she always chooses cheaper things. Ever since that day, she despised rich people.

Many years later, a girl named Kazuki Sakura, an obviously wealthy and snobbish young lady, moved in next door to Asako's family. Asako looked after Kazuki, only to find her to be a real pain because of her constant complaining, as Kazuki is unused to living in a "poor town" because of her background. Her ranting didn't stop there, as she acted like a self-entitled brat and refused to obey school rules regarding perfume and clothing, as it is what separates her from the rest. And to make matters worse, Asako was asked by the teacher to help Kazuki in adjusting to her new lifestyle, and Kazuki refuses to accept it.

Drawn and written by Nakamura Seiko, this precious little story of an unlikely, difficult, yet rewarding friendship is definitely worth the read.

# DEAD REVOLVER SOUL

We've always been warned to stay away from alleyways, especially after dark, because that is where good-for-nothing souls lurk and wait for their next victim. Apparently, nobody warned Kagami Kenichi, so one night, as he made his way in a dark alleyway, he saw what he never thought would see his entire life – a horrible demon that was devouring a woman after gruesomely dismembered her. Once the demon was done with his meal, he spotted Kenichi and decided to make him his next meal. Thankfully, a cute high school girl came to his aid and drove away the demon.

Because of what happened, Kenichi couldn't stop blabbing about it, even at school. Much to his surprise, he found the girl who rescued her in school, and she was looking for him. The girl, named Miyu, asked him to keep it a secret lest she kills him, and Kenichi agrees. And when their classmate Hirai turns out to be a demon and attacks them both, Miyu makes a contract with Kenichi, giving Miyu a greater power that is more than enough to slay the demon. However, the contract requires that those under it must always be together because refusal to do so spells death. Now he's got no choice but to stick with Miyu and confront demons whether he likes it or not, for his life depends on it, literally...

Written and drawn by Tomozo Kaoru, Dead Soul Revolver is a manga that has a lot of exciting exorcism action as well as a deep and mysterious plot that will surely get you hooked and wanting more. You've been warned...





J-IDOL

written by: Ann



# Starmarie

With lively dance moves and awesome vocals, a passionate fantasy story unfolds as Starmarie takes you on a life journey with their music.

Making their way in the J-Pop industry as well as the international music industry as gothic lolitas is the idol group called Starmarie. Its members are Aoki Shiori, Kishita Nozomi, and Shino Takamori or Shinohamu who is considered their leader.

This Tokyo-based group first started in July 2008 with its original members Arai Kaori, Sekine Saya, and Aoki who remained as a member of the current trio.

Starmarie participated in the Allover project, a Japanese idol group that started back in 2012 consisting of members from idol groups. Starmarie was under the Team α (alpha).



This indie idol group call themselves a fantasy unit because of how their songs tell fantasy stories that have a hot pot of emotions to pour to their listeners. They emphasize their performances that remain loyal to the content of the song as one of their differences from other idol groups. Some of their popular songs are Mitsuboshi Restaurant Paul kara no Shoutaijou (The Three-Starred Restaurant - Paul's Invitation) and Professor Honda's Dying Message.

In February 2009, they released their debut single Time Machine Love, while in July 2013 they made their first performance in the international scene at the Anime Expo AX in Los Angeles. They have also performed here in the Philippines on September 14-15 2013 as one of the participating bands in Best of Anime.



To further promote their gothic lolita image, they collaborated with the brand "Opera the Dream House".



Their first album, Fantasy World was released in February 2011 while Fantasy World 2 was released in December 2012. Just last year, they released Fantasy World 2.5 and this coming April, they will launch Fantasy World 3.

This March, they are going to participate in SXSW music festival in Austin, Texas, and after which, they will perform at Japan Nite US Tour 2014 in New York.



Indeed, Starmarie has a long way to go but it seems that these girls will make it a worthwhile journey to let their story be told.

## The Three-starred Restaurant -Paul's invitation-

Allow me to take you away in  
my Rolls-Royce  
Because you won't be in this  
world much longer

If you've received an invitation,  
please bring the one you love  
most...  
and enjoy your last supper at  
Paul's Restaurant

\*bubble bubble bubble bubble\*  
Listen! \*bubble bubble bubble\*  
your dish is calling you  
\*bubble bubble bubble bubble\*  
We are awaiting your arrival

If today is your final day, I will  
get you dressed up  
and take you on a date to the  
Three-starred Restaurant  
I'm bad with words, so I fill the  
silence, "Tastes good"  
What's this, a tear? That is the  
best compliment!

Come to think of it, we haven't  
talked much lately  
Let's go home, and time slip to  
the day we met

\*heart beating x4\*  
I... \*heart beating x3\* can't help  
but stare at you  
\*heart beating x4\*... You're still  
as beautiful as the day we met.

If today is your final day, I will  
propose to you once more  
at the Three-starred Restaurant,  
let's go.

I'm bad with words, so I fill the  
silence, "Tastes good"  
What's this, a tear? That is the  
best compliment!

A symphony of wonderful food,  
If you're satisfied, how about  
dessert? Anything left to do?

If today is your final day, I will  
talk to you one last time  
at the Three-starred Restaurant,  
let's go.

I finally was able to say "Thank  
you"... such an easy word  
What's this, a tear? That is the  
best compliment!





**BITZ**  
written by Levin

## KWENTILLION: A MILLION KWENTO

Are you a fan of young adult literature? If so, then get ready to be amazed with Kwentillion!

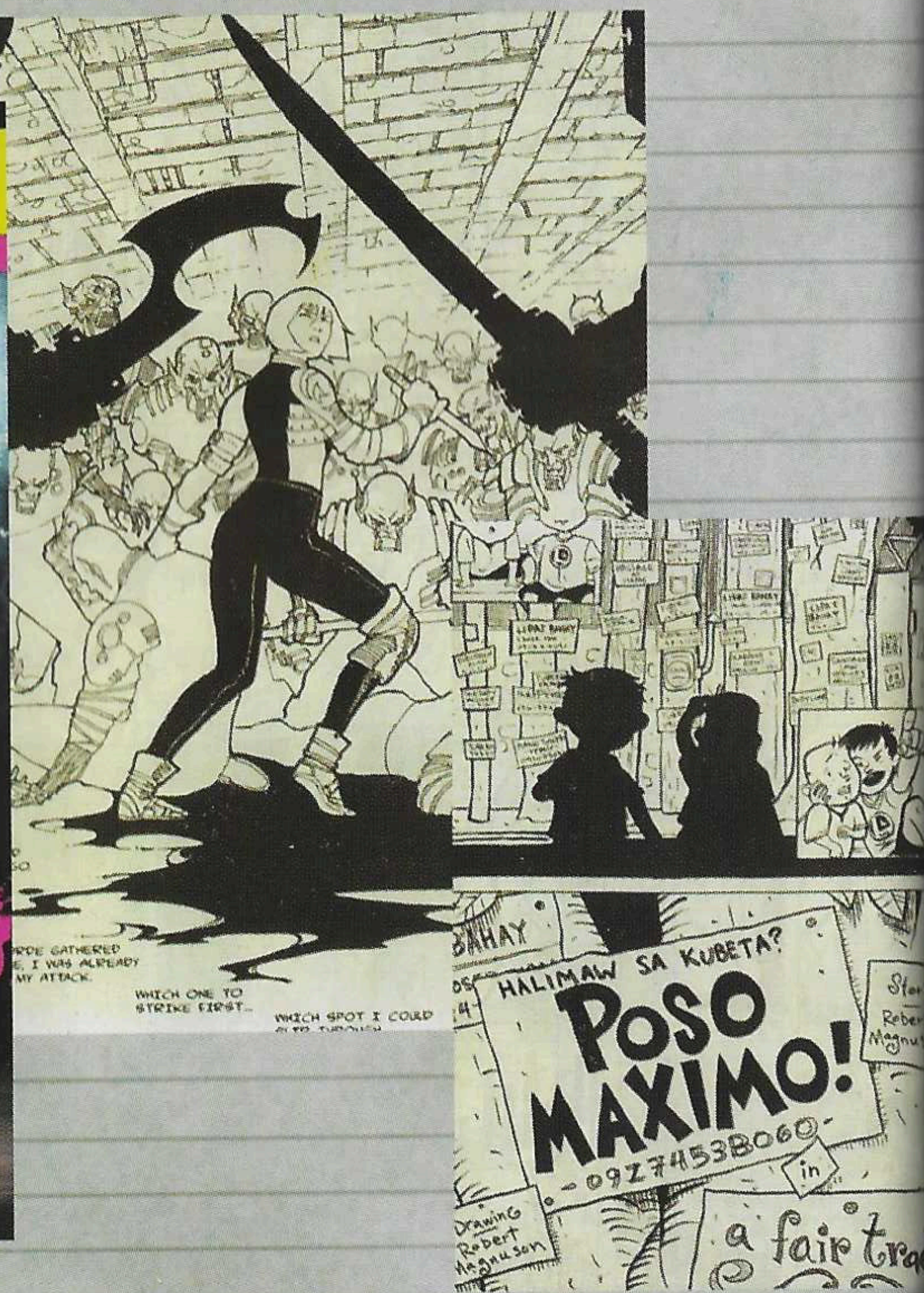
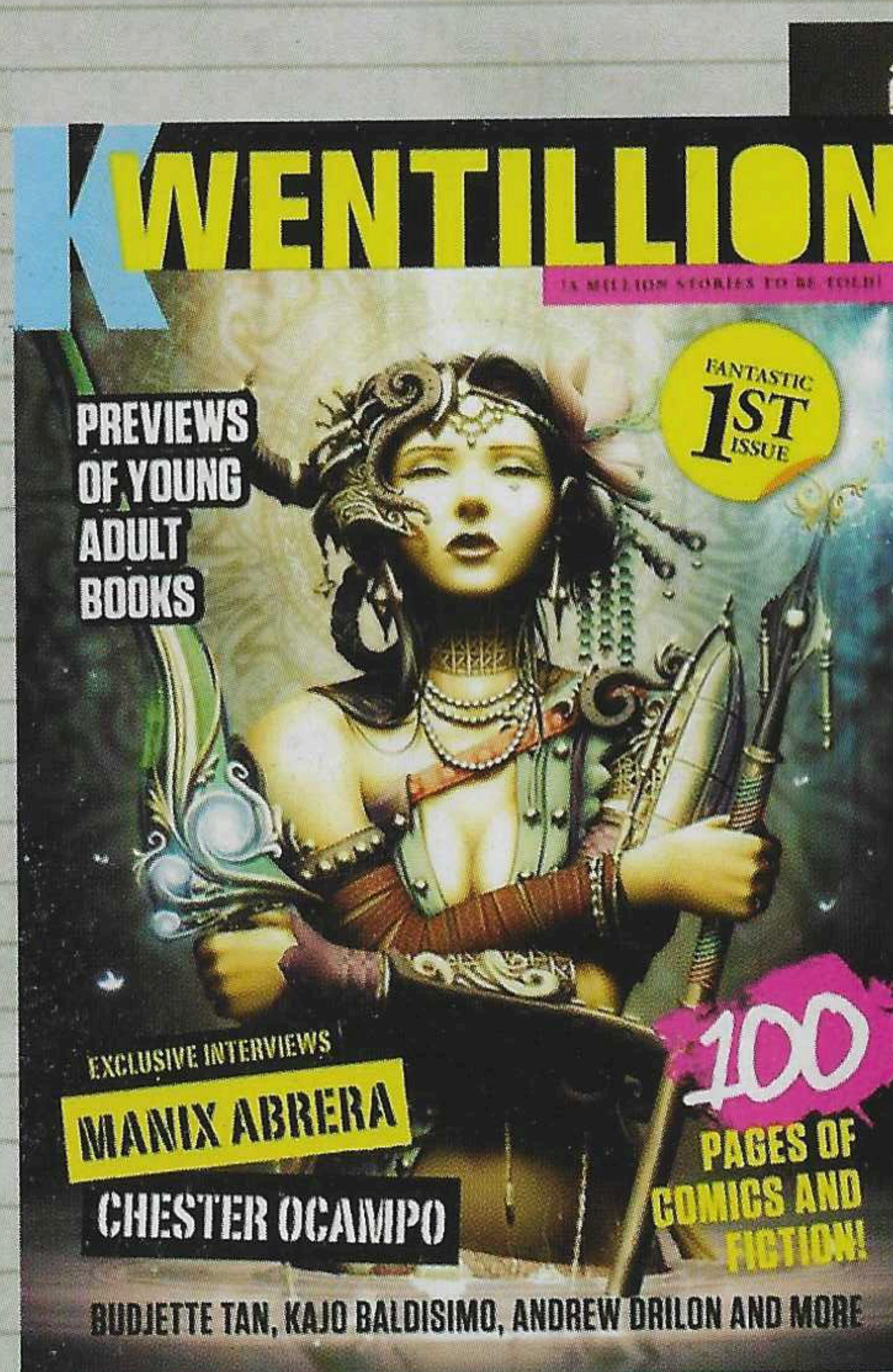
Kwentillion is the country's first publication dedicated to young adult literature and media. It features comics and fictions which embrace the YA theme, as well as articles which involves issues relevant to the YA theme.

The first issue of Kwentillion features four well-received original comics: "The Last Datu", a story about a daughter's revenge for his father's death set in a fantasy world, created by Budjette Tan and Kajo Baldesimo; "Poso Maximo: A Fair Trade", a story about a plumber battling sanitation monsters by Robert Magnuson; Paolo Chikiamco's and Hannah Buena's "High Society" is a steampunk tale set in the 18th century Philippines; and "Skygypsies" by Timothy Dimacali and John Bumanglag, which is a science fiction about the Sama-Laut.

Kwentillion also features interviews with Manix Abrera—creator of Kikomachine Komix, 12 and News Hardcore—and Chester Ocampo, the man behind the magazine's cover, as well as a column by Tarie Sabido who is a known YA blogger.

The magazine's first issue sold well considering its minimal promotion; about 750 of 1000 copies sold in 2-3 months, with the unsold copies coming from those sent out of Metro Manila.

Kwentillion is the new source for YA fictions, and it's a good enough read to make you want a second issue!



## DIVERGENT

written by: Pam Ola

Future is a time period after the present. It's a happening that cannot be predicted and it can be a surprising turn of events. Imagine a futuristic environment, advanced high technologies and improved mechanism that a man could ever make. Even humans have an enhanced ability to do anything they want. The leaders of the city seems so perfect on how they handle the people's needs.

What do you think will happen if this incredible city can turn into something you don't want it to be? What if the futuristic environment you expect it to be has some kind of dark mystery? Can it be an improvement or a drastic change?

In the futuristic Chicago, society is divided into five factions: Abnegation meant for the selfless; Amity meant for the peaceful; Candor meant for the honest; Dauntless meant for the brave; and Erudite meant for the knowledgeable. When all the teenagers reach the age of 16, they must take an aptitude test that will tell them for which faction they are best suited. After receiving the test results, they must choose to remain with their family faction or transfer to a new one.

Beatrice Prior sixteen years old who belongs to Abnegation faction makes an unexpected decision. She transfers to Dauntless. She must undertake a highly competitive initiation, where the newly renamed Beatrice, now Tris Prior must live out of the choice she has made. They must undergo extreme physical and intense psychological tests that transform them all. But, Tris has a secret that she is Divergent, which means she doesn't fit into any one group. If anyone knew, it would mean a certain death. As she discovers a growing conflict that threatens to unravel her seemingly perfect society, this secret might help her save the people she loves or it might destroy her.

Divergent is an action, adventure and sci-fi story written by Veronica Roth and the first installment of the Divergent trilogy. It was published on 2011 of April 25 in Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins. The novel series has a trilogy namely: Divergent, Insurgent and Allegiant.

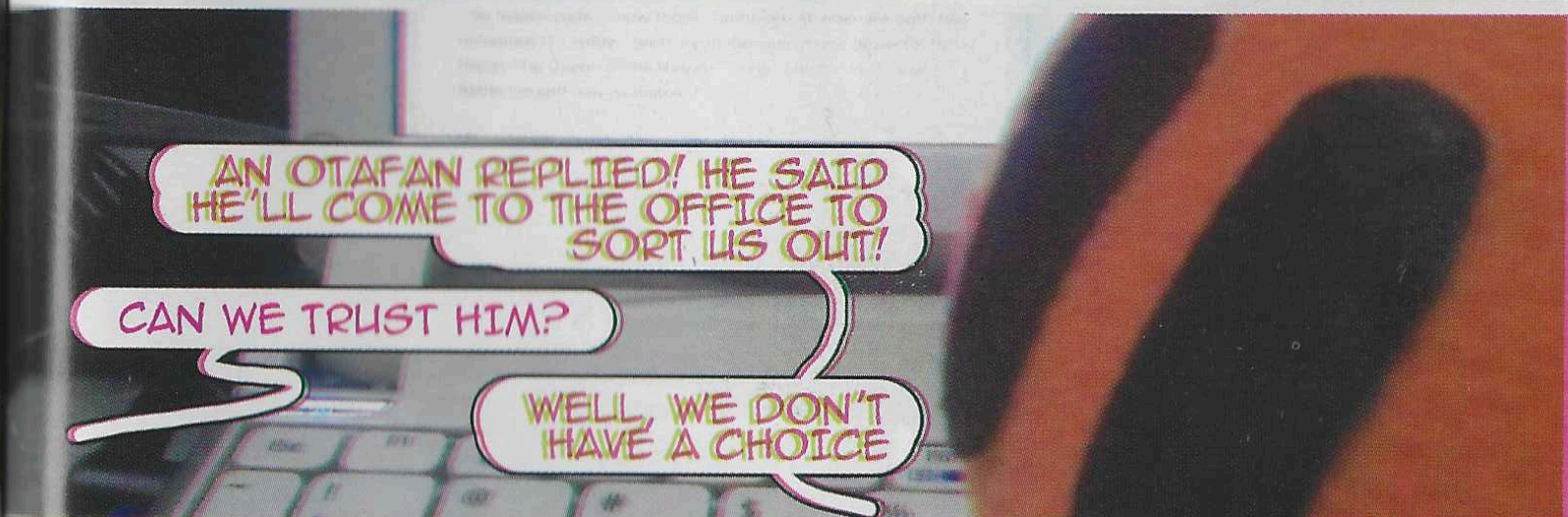
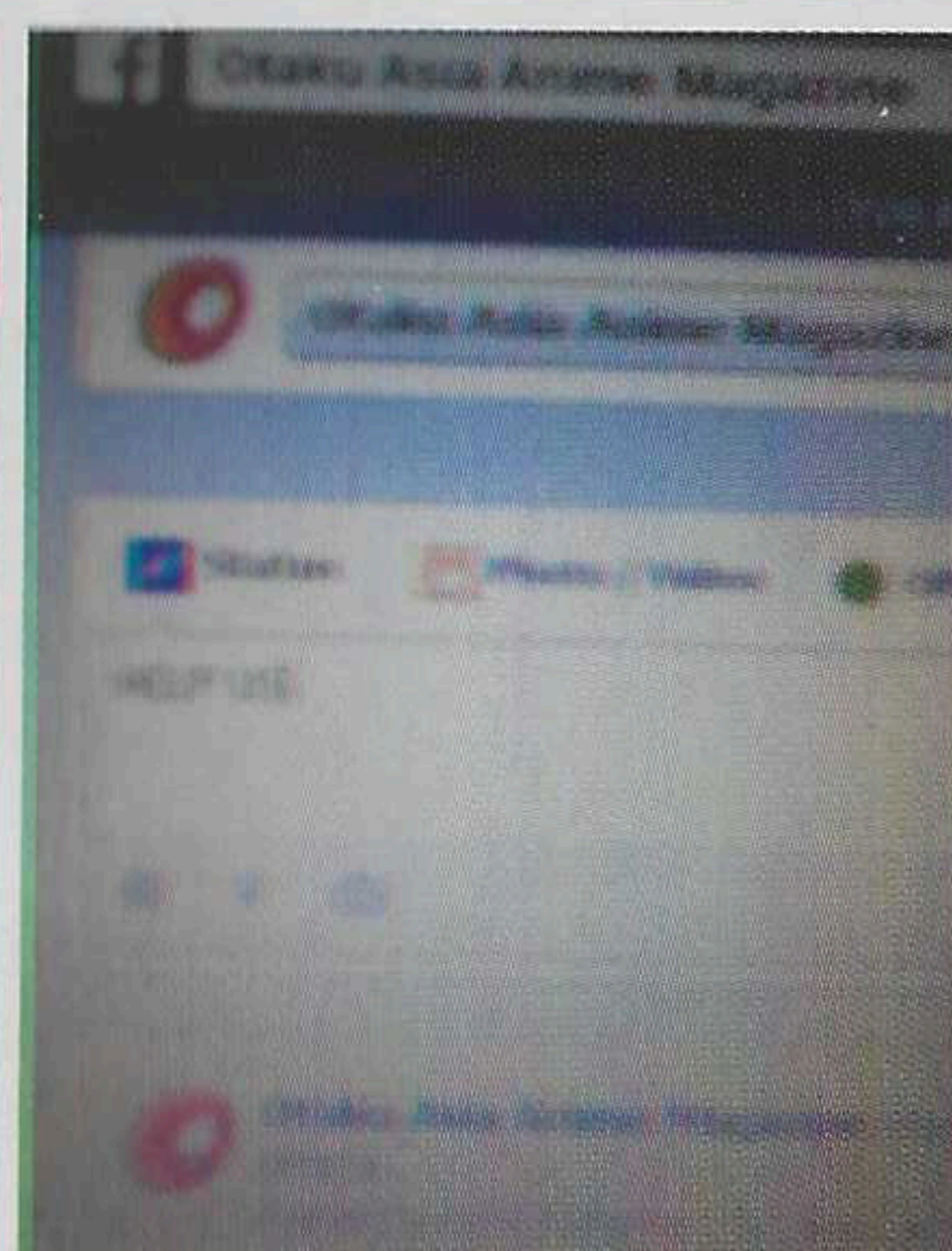
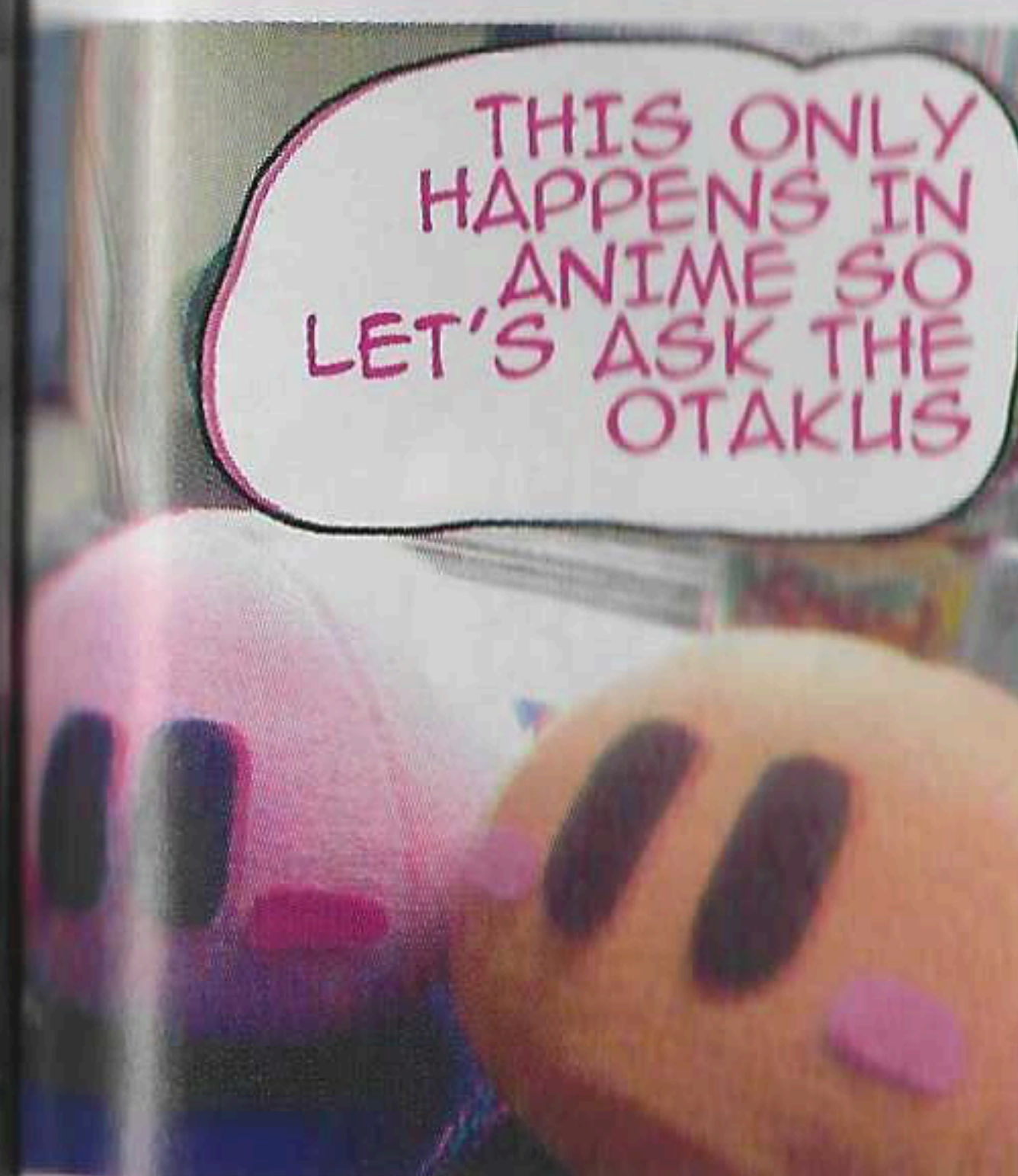
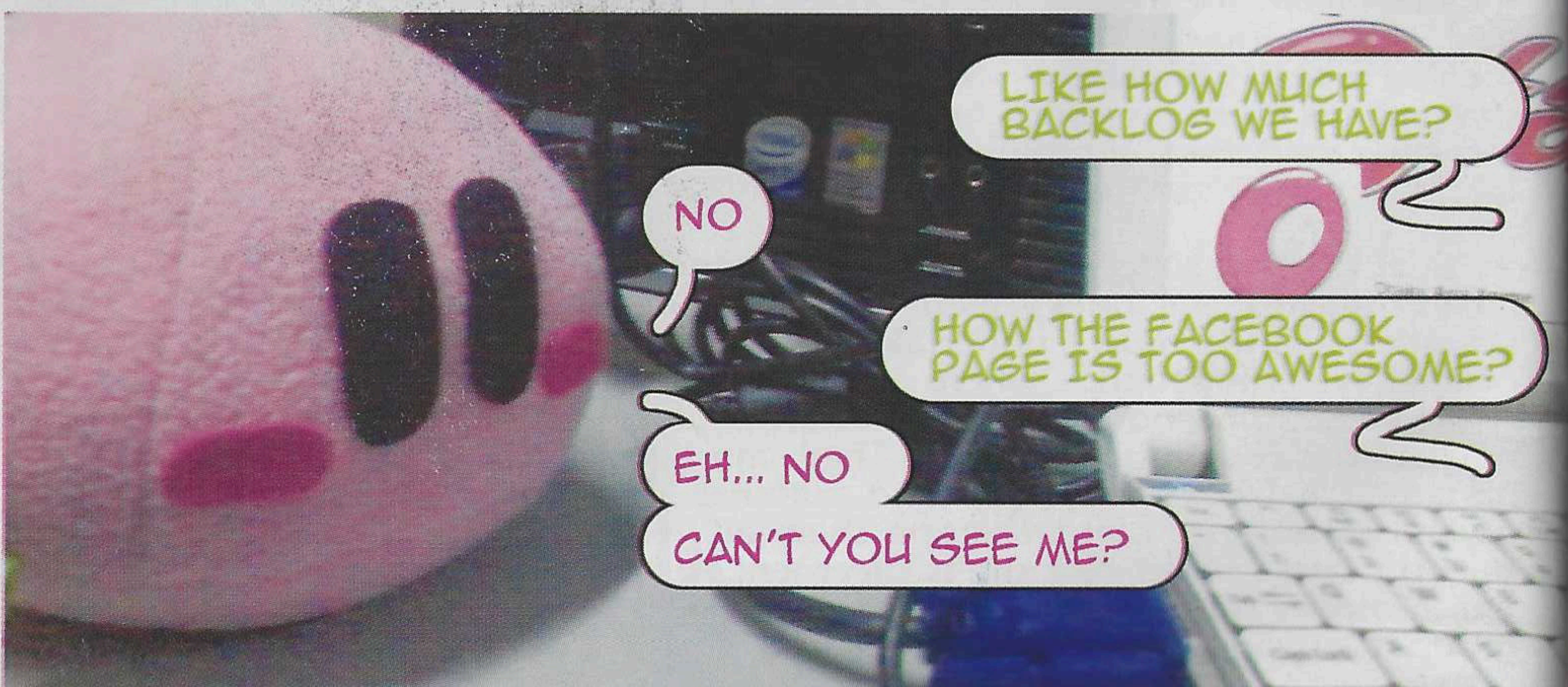
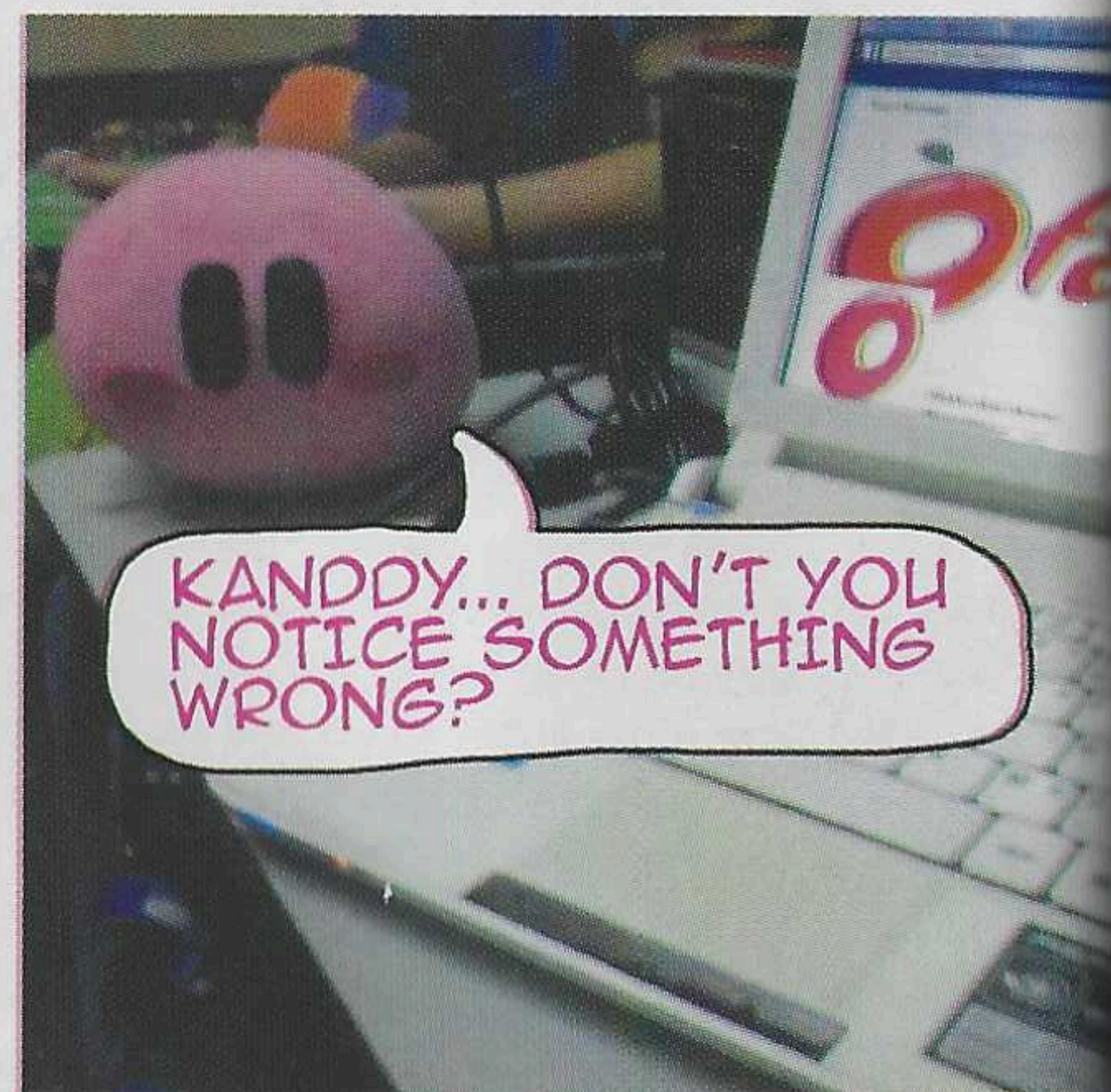
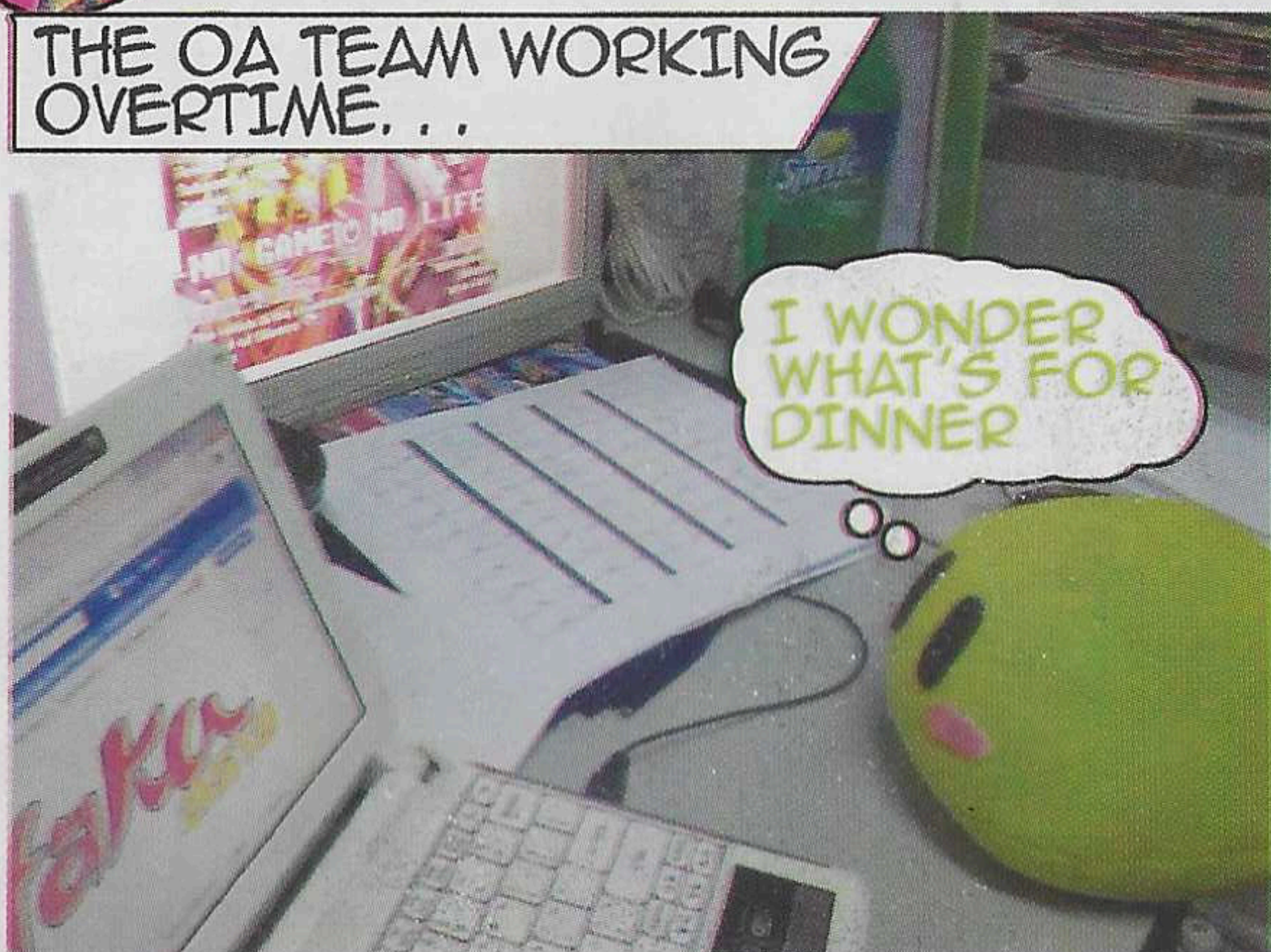
This futuristic theme of story will hook the audience's taste with a newly twist of science fiction. Entering a new faction where you will stay for the rest of your life and discovering the special ability as a Divergent to pass the initiation. The novel will definitely make you read more of Roth's trilogy novel.



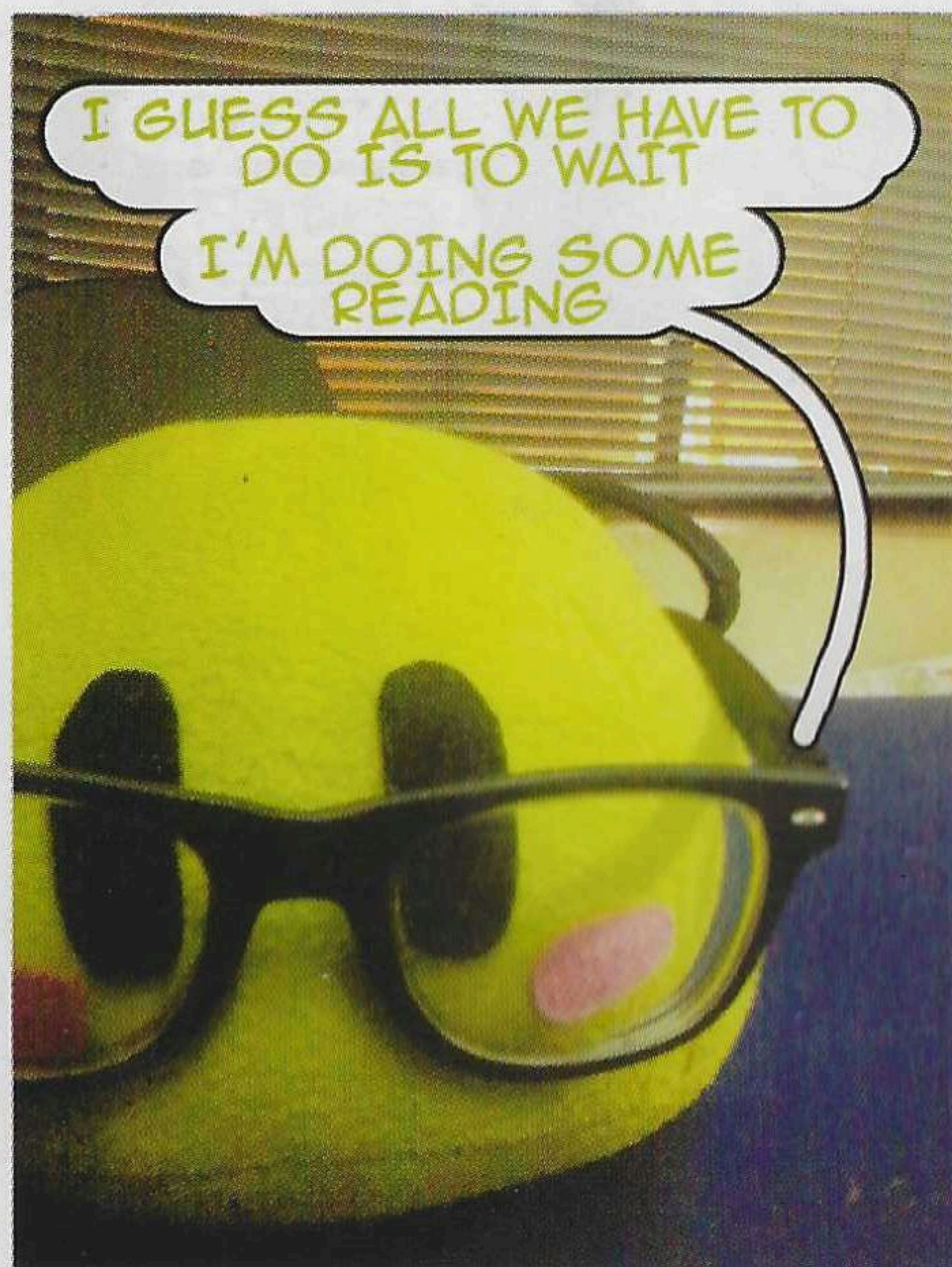


# O-KUN TALES TOO MUCH DANGO

THE OA TEAM WORKING OVERTIME...







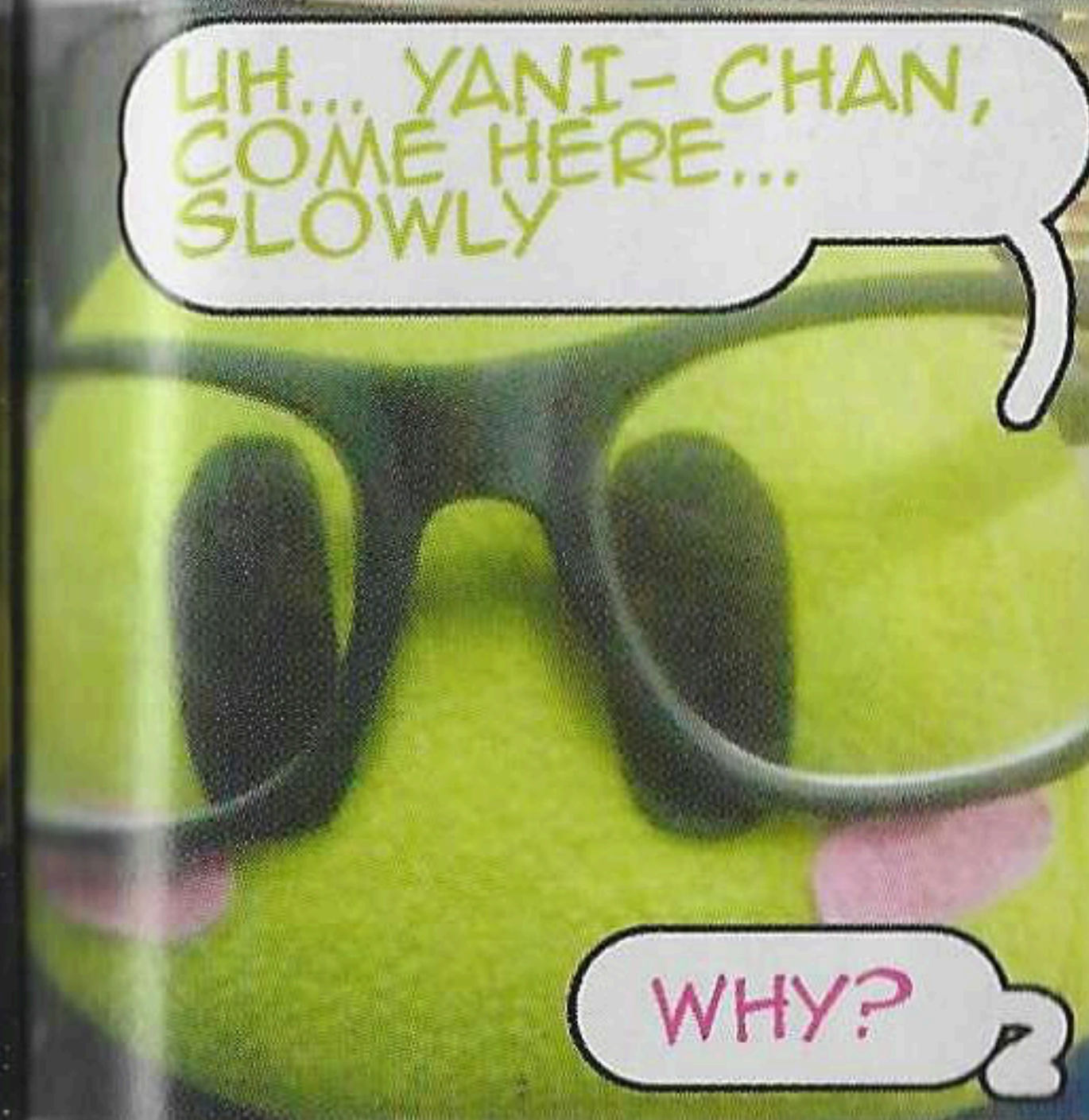
I GUESS ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO WAIT

I'M DOING SOME READING



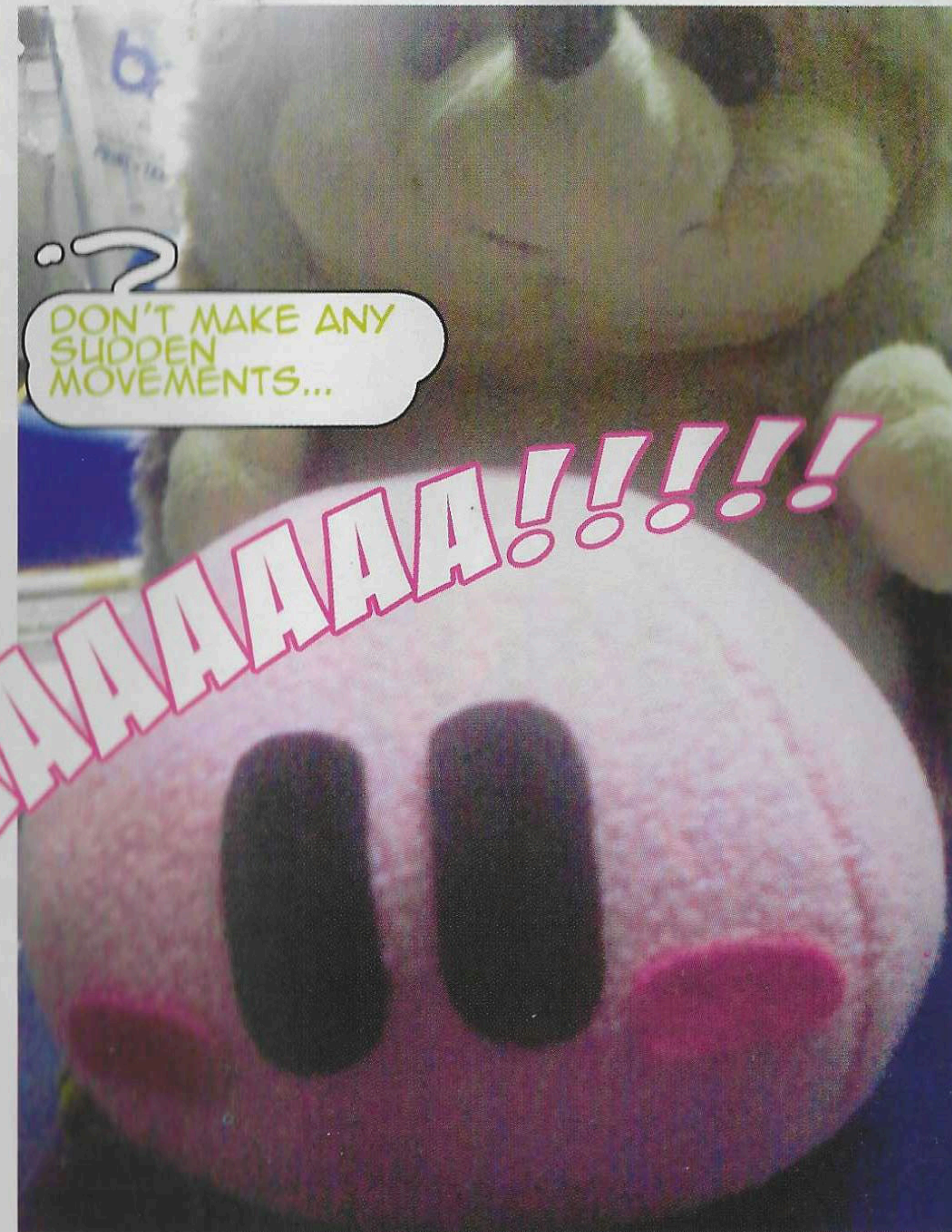
I WONDER WHAT WIG I SHOULD BUY

COSMIC BYTES IS AWESOME

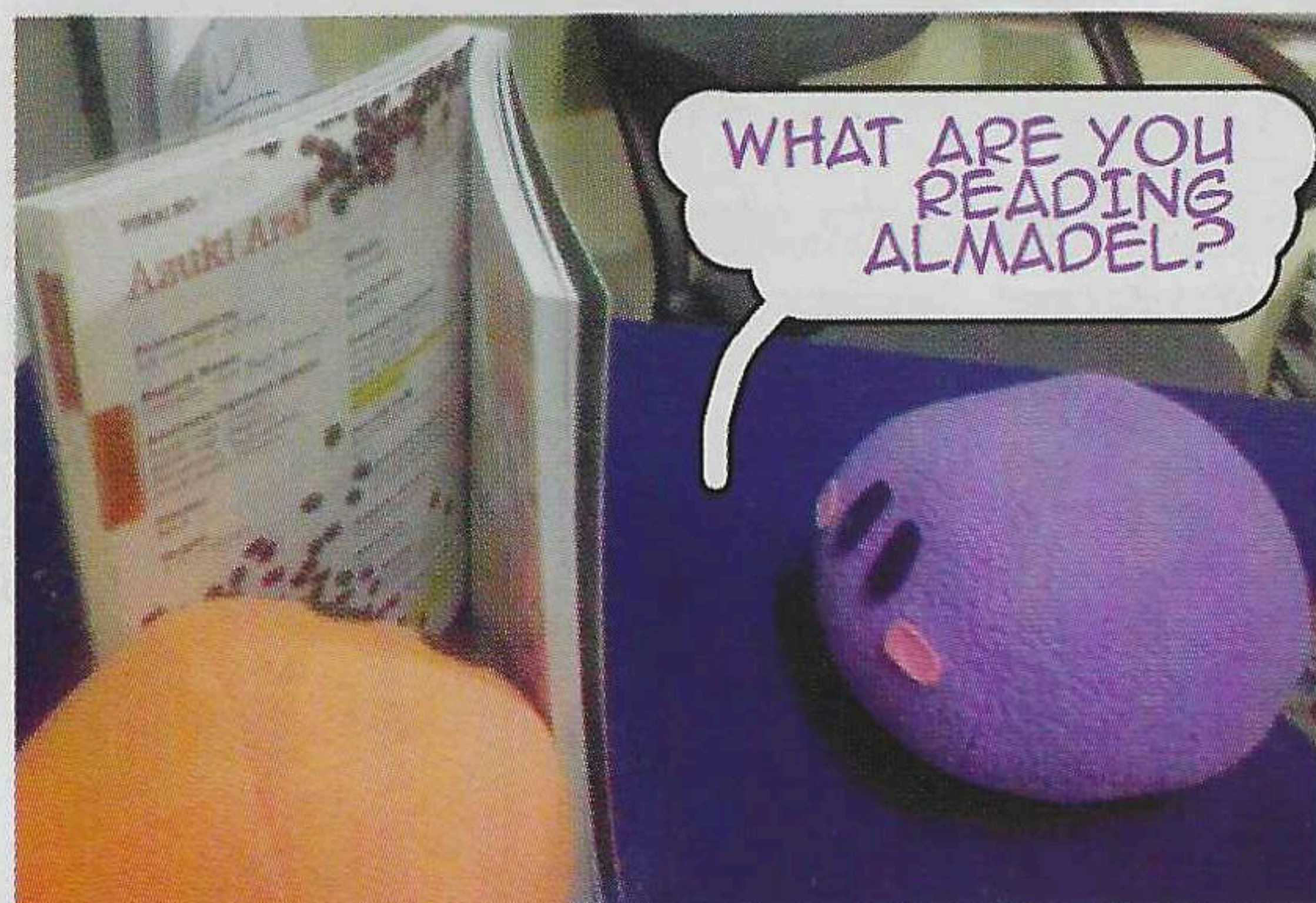


UH... YANI-CHAN, COME HERE... SLOWLY

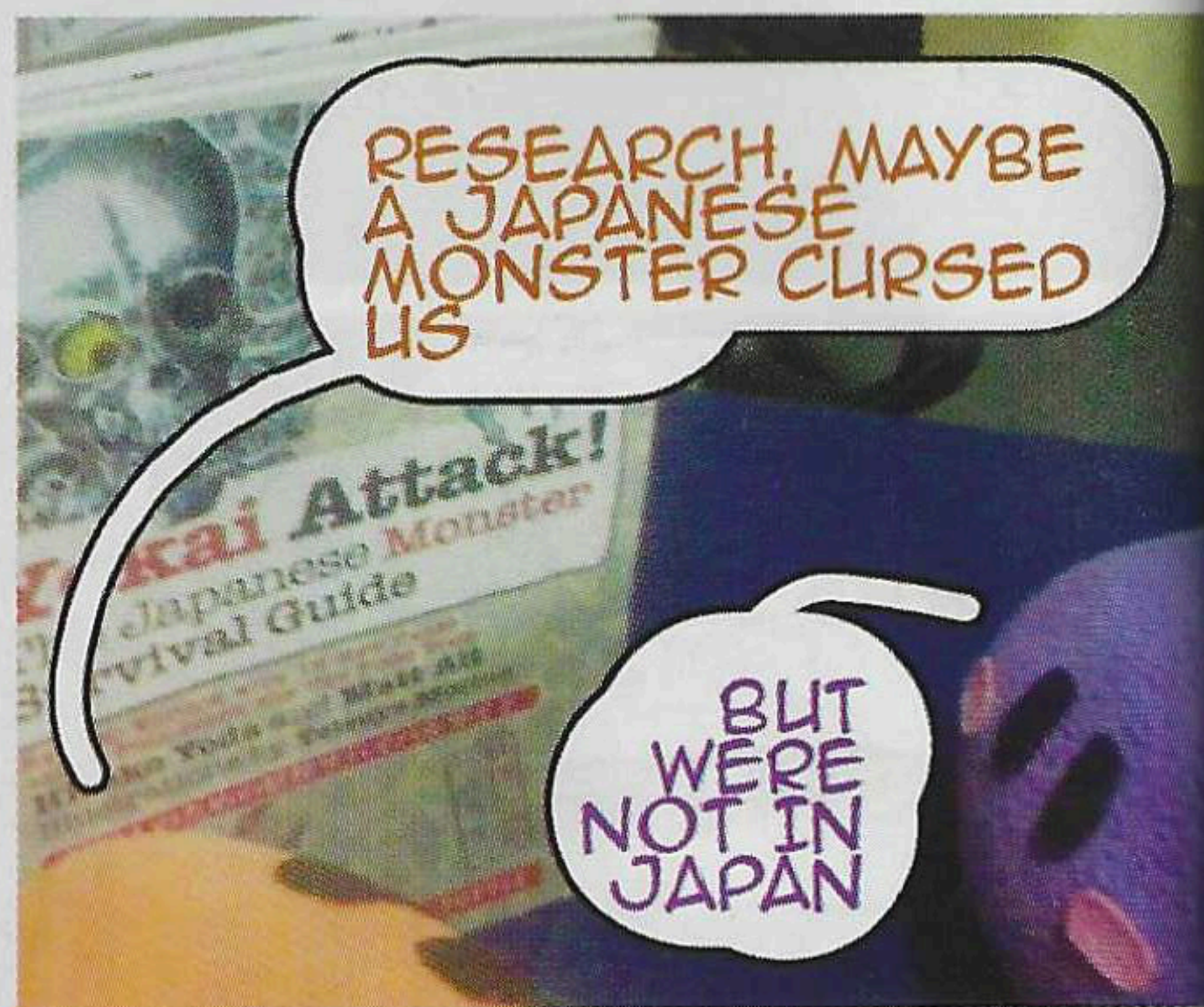
WHY?



DON'T MAKE ANY SUDDEN MOVEMENTS...



WHAT ARE YOU READING ALMADEL?



RESEARCH, MAYBE A JAPANESE MONSTER CURSED US

BUT WE'RE NOT IN JAPAN



HOW ABOUT YOU, YANI-CHAN... UH... MOE?

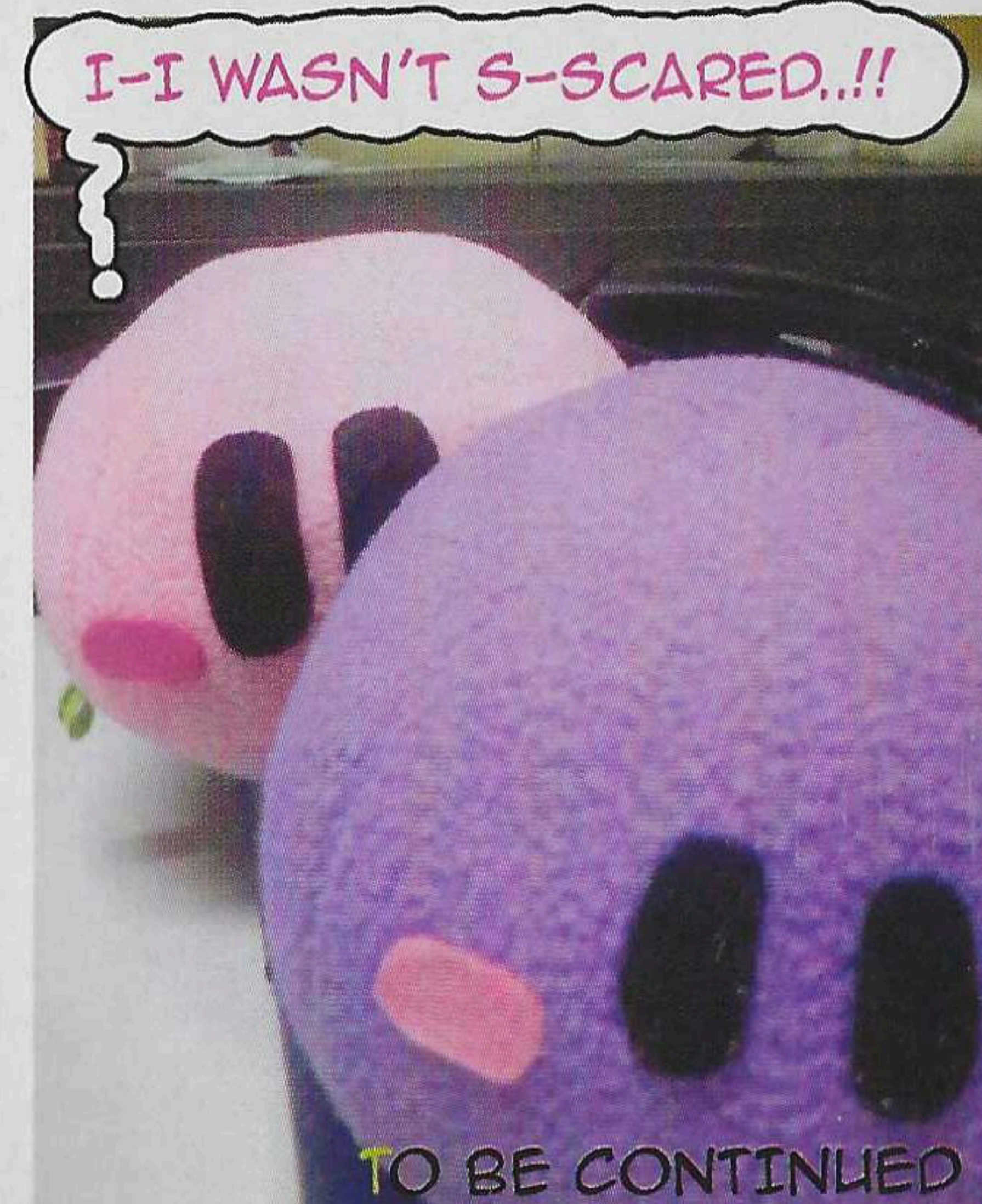
NO COMMENT



TEAM!! CALM DOWN!

HE'S SEBASTIAN, HE'S HERE TO HELP US.

SORRY I SCARED YOU



I-I WASN'T S-SCARED...!!

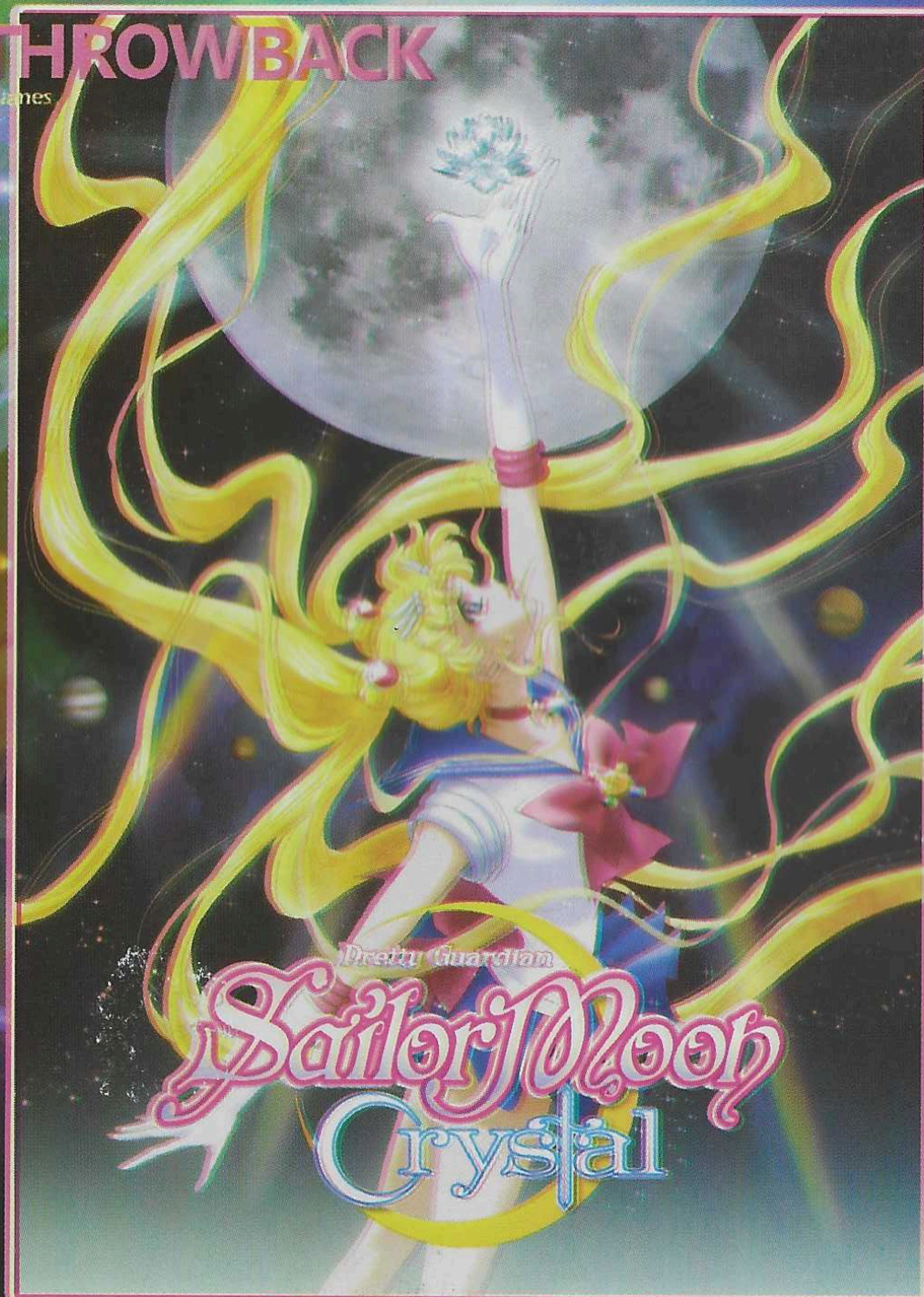
TO BE CONTINUED





## #THROWBACK

written by James



The new Sailor Moon series, retitled Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon Crystal will be premiere in July and will be streaming worldwide on the NicoNico Douga website. The producer, Atsutoshi Umezawa claims that the new Sailor Moon is not a remake of the classic anime. Moreover, the story will still be based on its original manga storyline.

Munehisa Sakai, who is the director of One Piece and Suite Precure will direct the new series under Toei Animation. Expect the new anime series with new art and scenes in the flow of the story. The costumes of each guardian are still the same, the timeless sailor uniform. The guardians of the Sailor Moon Crystal would be more adult-like but a lot cuter than the previous series and the visual atmosphere promises to be completely different.

Sailor moon originated as a manga written and illustrated by Naoko Takuechi in 1992. It was made into an anime which became popular worldwide because of its theme concerning magical girls. The story revolves on Usagi Tsukino, who was chosen to become a sailor guardian, and the other sailor guardians, tasked to look for the moon princess and protect Earth against the evil villains.

The classic anime series promises to retain the quality and twist of the story that makes it popular in the recent decade. Be sure to check out this new adaptation and look forward for its newest art designs that will again, capture every otaku especially the Sailor Moon fans.



**Tokyo Bubble Tea** is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!

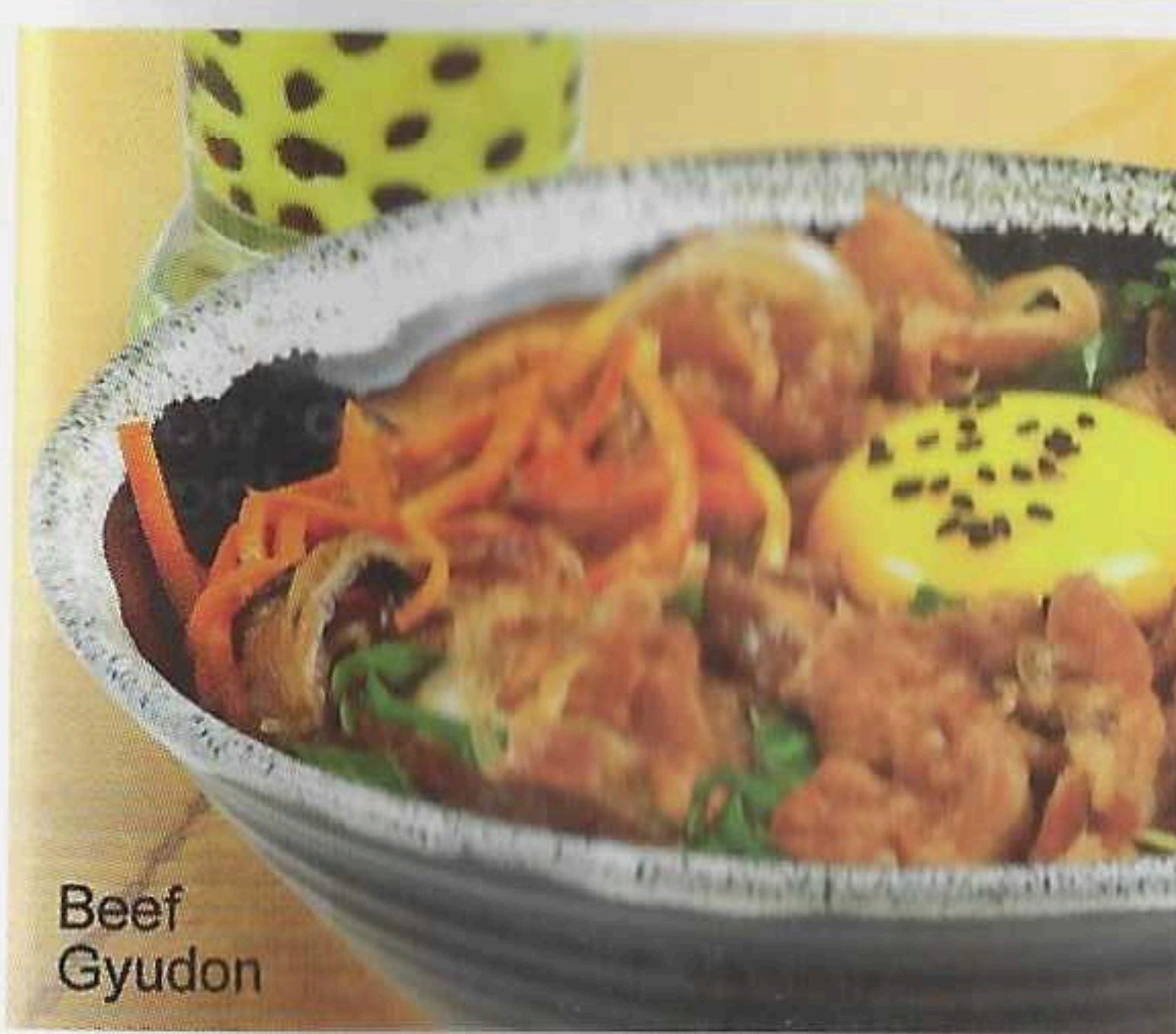


### Our Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



Nippon  
Ebi



Beef  
Gyudon

### Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.



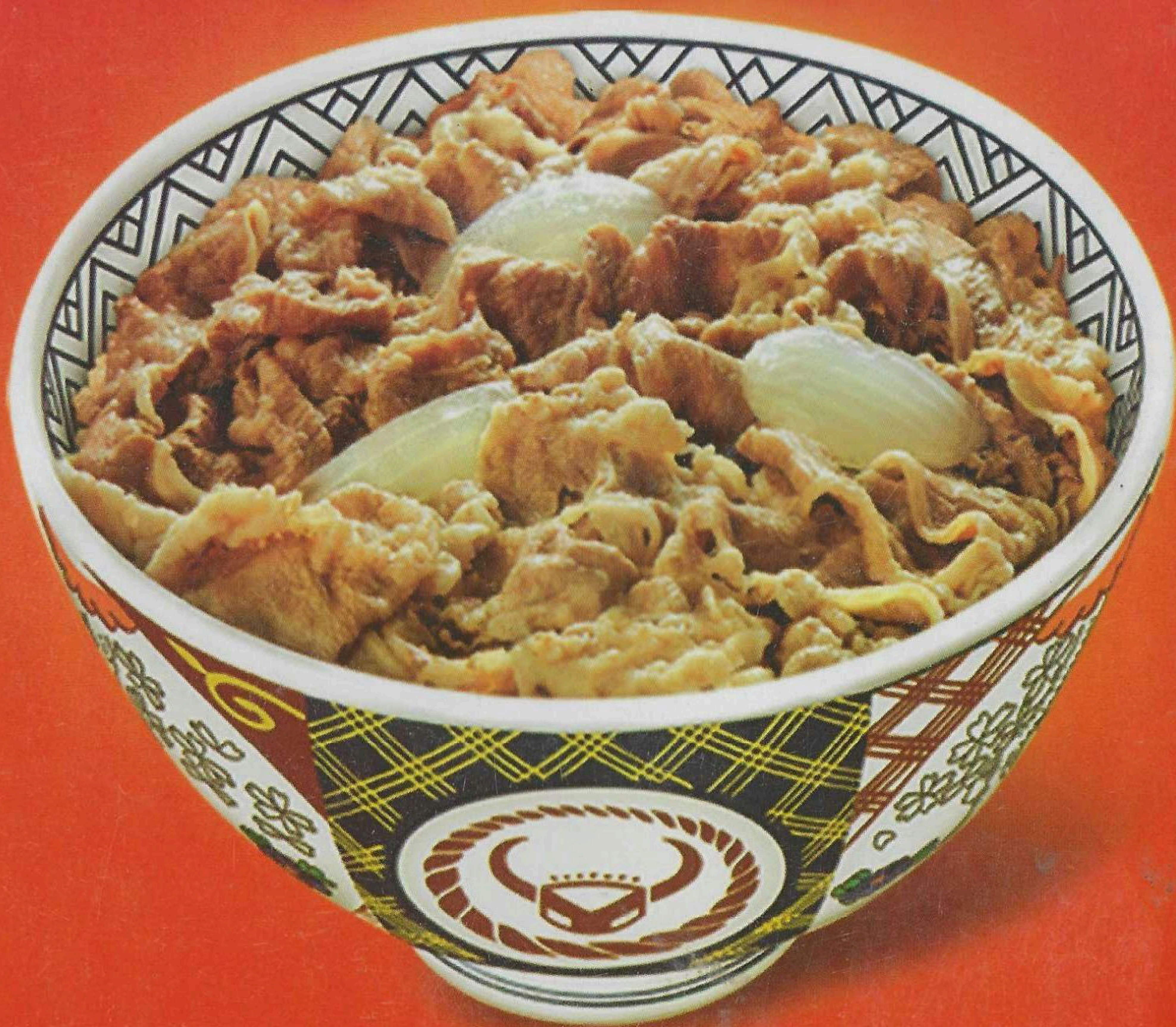


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